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THE NEWSPAPER FOR CHATHAM, GILLINGHAM, ROCHESTER, STROOD, RAINHAM & DISTRICT



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FRAUDSTER COUNCILLOR PAYS PRICE

FORMER councillor Dennis McFarlane swindled more than £3,700 of taxpayers' money during an eight-month benefits scam.



BENEFIT FRAUD:
Dennis McFarlane

He was Luton and Wayfield ward representative when he raked in the hand-outs until he was caught in April, this year.

He was suspended from the Medway Labour group and stood

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

down as a councillor immediately after the scandal emerged.

And on Monday, McFarlane, of Spitfire Close, Chatham, appeared at Medway Magistrates' Court. The 52-year-old pleaded guilty to one charge of obtaining benefits dishonestly and asked for a further 17 dishonest claims to be taken in to account.

The court was told McFarlane claimed £3,544 in jobseeker's allowance, £173 in housing benefit and £51 in council tax benefit.

Magistrates gave McFarlane a two-year conditional discharge and

ordered him to pay costs of £150, payable within 14 days. Medway Council officials said they would now seek to recover the housing benefit and council tax overpayments.

Speaking yesterday, McFarlane refused to apologise to the Medway taxpayers he conned, saying: "I have no comment to make. I made my comments in court. I'm glad it's all over."

Magistrates heard how McFarlane failed to declare on his benefit application form that he had received an annual members' allowance – in excess of £8,000 per year – from Medway Council since he was elected

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



DATE WITH FAME

Rebecca Hasler from Rochester bared almost all in a Calendar Girls-style photo shoot for charity. The 25-year-old cosmetic surgery worker appears in the calendar with 11 colleagues from the Transform Cosmetic Surgery Group to mark the company's 35th anniversary, next year.

Ms Hasler, who works at the Maidstone clinic, hopes the tongue-in-cheek images help raise funds for the NSPCC. The brunette Miss March said: "It's such a fun idea and all for a good cause. I was delighted to have been chosen." The 2010 calendar can be bought from any of Transform's 24 clinics across the country.

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ARRESTING SIGHT: Mr Turner's snap of a PCSO in Chatham that started the trouble

Photo arrest man expects apology

■ BY CHRIS MURPHY

A KEEN amateur photographer who was arrested after taking a picture of a police officer believes he is due to receive an apology – but the force said it is still looking into the incident.

Officers arrested Alex Turner outside Snappy Snaps, in Chatham High Street, and told him he was suspected of being a terrorist.

He had been taking shots of the area when police approached him and demanded to know what he was doing with a camera, following a complaint from two men who said they were with Medway Council.

The officers arrested Mr Turner when he objected to the line of questioning and took a picture of a female Police Community Support Officer.

With dozens of shoppers looking on, he was taken along the High Street, placed in the back of a waiting police van and told he was being held under the Prevention of Terrorism Act 2000.

At the time, he said: "As I was arrested I was handcuffed. I asked why she had arrested me. She stated because I had taken a photograph of her and that she considered this to be an unlawful obstruction."

"After a short time I was let up the High Street and detained in a police van for about 20 minutes."

More officers, this time in plain clothes arrived, and after a discus-

sion between the officers, Mr Turner was 'de-arrested' and told he was free to go.

He said the female officer said she was "intimidated" by Mr Turner's size – he is 5ft 11in and weighs about 12 stone.

But the incident left him shocked and angry that something like that could happen on Britain's streets.

He said: "It left me upset, embarrassed and traumatised."

He lodged an official complaint with the force's professional standards department and now Mr Turner claims he has been told he is to get a formal apology. On his online blog, Mr Turner said his wife had received a call from police.

He wrote: "They were ringing to let me know my complaint has been upheld. The only details I have right now is the phrase 'unlawful arrest' and that they want to say sorry."

He did take the case to the Independent Police Complaints Commission, which decided the matter should be dealt with internally by Kent Police.

But it seems far from over.

A spokesman said: "Kent Police can confirm that Mr Turner has been updated on the internal investigation. The investigation is ongoing with the professional standards department and it would not be appropriate to comment at this time."

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Dave feels the benefit of roadshow advice

A CHATHAM man is £2,000 better off, thanks to a shopping trip.

Dave McCann is to receive an extra £39.20 a week after visiting Medway Council's benefits roadshow stand.

The 50-year-old, who has been registered disabled for two years, came across the stand in the Pentagon Centre where he discovered he was eligible for more support.

Medway Council's advice means he will no longer have to pay £200 a year in optician's fees and will also receive free dental care.

Mr McCann said: "The extra benefits have made a real difference, especially paying my bills."

Five-year plan targets special needs pupils

COUNCIL chiefs in Medway have unveiled a five-year plan to improve the standard of education for children with special needs.

The key aim of the proposal is to provide a better network of support, inside and away from school.

This will be achieved by working with organisations such as the National Autistic Society to develop the care received inside mainstream and specialist schools.

Other developments include renovating the St Werburgh Primary School and Marlborough Centre, providing extra places and building a primary school for the hearing impaired.

In the festive mood at Miers Court fair

A RAINHAM school is gearing up for the festive season by holding a Christmas fair.

The fair will be at Miers Court Primary School, on Saturday, from 11am to 2pm.

Dozens of stalls will be set up in the school hall, including a tombola and a gingerbread house. A silent auction will feature lots including a family trip to Hever Castle and two London theatre tickets.

The day will be topped off when Father Christmas and his elves take up their places at the school's grotto.




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Academy pupils protest over 'fights and racism'

BY SIMON ROBINSON

FRUSTRATED Strood Academy pupils staged a sit-in protest after complaining of a rise in fights and racist attacks since the school was formed.

The 20-strong group of schoolgirls, made up of year ten and 11 students, refused to attend classes last Thursday morning until their concerns were heard.

Academy principal Richard Hart and senior staff met with the protesters and listened to their complaints.

The youngsters said a range of problems had arisen since the academy was formed from the merger of Temple boys' school and Chapter school for girls. They said there were daily fights, constant racist attacks and that teachers did not want to teach.

Unbearable

Student Amy-May Fowle said: "The fights are just getting unbearable. There are two or three a day on the field."

"The teachers don't want to teach – it's a complete nightmare. We never wanted to be here. We just want to go back to our old school. There's no control here, the kids just do what they want."

Classmate Sam Gardner said: "This place is a nightmare. We just want people to see what it's like. The school is doing nothing to sort out the problems. There's lots of racism and it's getting worse."



She claimed a boy in year seven was hospitalised after he suffered a broken nose, jaw and ribs. The girls were supported by their parents after they told them of their plans the night before the protest.

Karen Fowle, mother of Amy, said: "We're backing the girls. It's been terrible for them since the new academy opened."

Principal Richard Hart said: "Some year ten and 11 girls held a well-mannered protest on Thursday morning. I then met them along with other senior staff and listened to their concerns. The matter has now been satisfactorily resolved."

Strood Academy opened on September 1. TV presenter Loyd Grossman, famed for hit shows such as Masterchef and Through the Keyhole, spoke at the opening ceremony, held a month later.

Mr Grossman is chairman of the academy's lead sponsor, the University for the Creative Arts. The academy has 1,500 students on its books across the two sites, the former Chapter and Temple school.

A new £30 million building will be constructed at the Temple site by 2012, marking the final stage of the merger. It will specialise in maths and business and enterprise.



TWO MONTHS AGO: Smiles all round as TV's Loyd Grossman officially opens Strood Academy, following the merger of Chapter School and Temple Boys. But last week 20 female pupils staged a sit in to protest about racism and fighting at the academy

Police hunt thug after schoolgirl stabbed in back

A TEENAGE thug is being sought by police in connection with a cowardly attack on a young schoolgirl.

The man, thought to be about 18 years old, struck Strood Academy pupil Jade Sullivan in the back as she walked home along Carnation Road at 3pm on Wednesday, November 25.

Jade, 14, suffered a small wound – initially thought to be caused by a knife – in her lower back and was taken to hospital where she remained overnight.

Neighbours described chaotic scenes outside the school before the teenager was taken to hospital with a puncture wound.

One woman, who did not wish to be named, said: "There were police everywhere. They even had a helicopter circling overhead looking for the person. I don't know what was going on, but it's pretty scary."

Isolated

Chief Supt Steve Corbishley of Medway police said: "This was an isolated incident. Fortunately the girl was not seriously injured, but she was kept in hospital overnight as a precaution."

"Officers have spoken to the teenager who explained she felt a sharp pain in her back, but is unable to say what it was caused by."

"There have been assumptions it was a knife. That does not appear to be the case, but it is unknown exactly what caused this small cut."

"This was a busy time of the day, with many people using Carnation Road to collect children from nearby schools."

"If anyone saw an assault take place or saw a man running away at about 3pm, they should call the police on 01634 792323 or Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555111."

McFarlane in benefit fraud

FROM FRONT PAGE

in May 2007. McFarlane called Jobcentre Plus on August 12, 2008, to make his first fraudulent benefit application for JSA.

He visited the JobCentre Plus offices in Chatham two days later and completed his statement to verify the information provided during his phone call, correct any mistakes and sign the declaration.

On the form, McFarlane declared that neither he nor his partner were working and their only income was child benefit and that neither had any savings. He also failed to tell authorities he was paid an allowance by Medway Council when he made his claim.

Message

Finance boss Alan Jarrett said: "This prosecution sends a clear message that Medway Council will not tolerate benefit fraud of any kind."

"It is completely unacceptable and we won't hesitate to investigate, track down and prosecute those who cheat the system."

"I would like to pay tribute to the investigation and legal teams who work tirelessly to make sure benefits go to the people who really need them."

A by-election was held in Luton and Wayfield in September after McFarlane's shock resignation.

Football's founding father is unveiled

SCULPTOR Sam Holland has unveiled her latest work – a bronze of the Victorian founder of the Football League.

Sam, from Upchurch, took four months to create the imposing figure of Aston Villa chairman William McGregor, who wrote to all the big football clubs proposing an organised league in 1888.

The bronze was unveiled outside the Birmingham club's ground by Football League chairman Lord Mawhinney at the weekend.

Sam said she enjoyed creating the piece at her Medway City Estate studio. "He was just a wonderful character to portray with his huge beard – a real Victorian gentleman," she added.

The piece was well received by the Aston Villa Supporters' Trust, which paid for the work.

The trust's Peter Warrilow said: "Everyone thought the sculpture was marvellous. It will be a meeting point for years to come. He is perfectly in tune with his surroundings right in front of the directors' entrance."

The bronze sees McGregor in a flowing frockcoat clutching the letter he wrote to the leading clubs of the day.

It read: "I beg to tender ... the following suggestion...that ten or 12 of



HERO AND VILLAN: Sam Holland with her bronze sculpture of William McGregor

the most prominent clubs in England combine to arrange home and away fixtures each season."

McGregor served Aston Villa for more than 20 years and also took prominent roles in both the Football League and Football Association.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Santas run for charity

MORE than 140 sprinting Santas ran through the streets of Rochester at the weekend, raising money for charity.

Runners of all ages took part in Saturday's Santa Fun Run, which started and finished at Rochester Castle Gardens.

The fun run was organised by Medway Rotary Club. Proceeds will be split between the runners' charities and four chosen by the club.

Frankie's toy trolley dash

SCHOOLGIRL Frankie-Terri Watson went wild in the aisles after being chosen to win the top 12 Christmas toys.

The Gillingham youngster was one of five lucky children at Heart FM's one-minute trolley-dash at a Ramsgate toy store.

A Heart FM spokesman said: "The Toy Retailers Association announced the top 12 toys Christmas toys and we knew winning all those toys would be every kid's dream."

"Luckily, Smyths Toys Superstore agreed."

Thieves put the boot in

MORE than 100 pairs of boots have been stolen from a Rochester garage.

The footwear, including 96 pairs of chocolate-brown Treadsafe DY800 steel toe-cap safety boots, were taken from a lock-up garage at the Tideway in Rochester.

A dozen pairs of honey-coloured Treadsafe DY800 steel toe cap safety boots and pairs of burgundy, black and chestnut Oak Track dealer boots were also stolen between 3.30pm on Monday, November 16 and 8.45am the following day.

Call police on 01634 792496.

Media officer fights for press in Helmand

■ BY MATHEW BEECH

MEDWAY-born military press officer Darragh McElroy is engaged in a hard-fought war of words in battle-scarred Afghanistan.

The media operations serviceman, who has taken up a six-month post in Helmand Province, has been working with the area's independent news networks in a bid to smash terrorist propaganda.

Darragh, part of 11 Light Brigade, based at UK Brigade Headquarters, said it was crucial to support local and national journalism in the country.

"As reliable news spreads, the space shrinks for insurgents to spread misinformation and fear," he said.

"Providing people with accurate information also allows them to weigh what the Government has to offer and stands for against those who oppose it."

"In partnership with the US Marine Corps in Task Force Leatherneck, we are able to support the journalists by helping them travel across the province by helicopter to research stories and report on events."

Providing reliable, local news has been one of the core objectives of the Helmand Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT).

During the past three years the team has funded the building of a government-run media centre in the heart of Lashkar Gah,



FREEDOM OF SPEECH: Press officer Darragh McElroy speaks to an Afghan journalist at the media lunch in Afghanistan

which opened this year.

The new centre boasts a conference room, a meeting room and a work room, complete with phones, computers and internet as well as printing presses, providing a vital space for the journalists to work from.

The UK has also funded 18-months of training for local journalists and developed and equipped a Helmand journalists' union.

Speaking at a lunch with 15 journalists and high-profile army officers earlier this month, Darragh said it was important to build a relationship with the news teams.

He said: "The lunch was part of a rolling program of engagement with local media aimed at keeping local journalists and Helmandis abreast of recent events in their area."

"It also gives the journalists access to those military and civilian personnel working on stabilisation and reconstruction initiatives."

With British support, there is now a burgeoning community of journalists in Helmand working for national and international media.

In 2001, there was one state-run radio station in Helmand, but in 2009 there are five, four of them commercial.

The Governor of Helmand's spokesperson Daud Ahmadi, who also attended the media lunch, said: "These gatherings are a way for us to strengthen our good relationship with the staff of the PRT and the military."

"The act of eating together and exchanging ideas helps build our friendship. It's a good way to better understand each other."



CRACKDOWN: Police carry out Operation Vision

24-hour police operation results in 23 arrests

A TEENAGE thug was one of more than 20 Medway residents to be arrested during a 24-hour police crackdown on crime.

The 17-year-old, from Chatham, was held in connection with two assaults in the White Road area.

He was arrested as part of a day-long police clampdown in Chatham, codenamed Operation Vision.

A total of 23 people were arrested throughout the day.

Chief Superintendent Steve Corbishley, area commander for Kent Police in Medway

said: "This was partnership in action – sending out a clear message to the public that the agencies that make up the Community Safety Partnership do listen and will act on concerns that are blighting their lives."

Among the other arrests were Antonio Shearer, 21, from Rochester, who was detained in connection with an incident at the Tap 'N' Tin in Chatham.

He was later charged with affray and two counts of assault.

UK Border Agency also worked alongside Medway council officials to carry out checks

on employers suspected of having illegal immigrants on their books.

Three Chinese nationals aged 17, 26 and 31 were arrested at the New Jade Takeaway in Darnley Road, Strood, on suspicion of immigration offences.

Medway Council's community safety chief Rehman Chishti said: "Operations like this are key to building trust in what the council, police and other agencies are doing to keep Medway safe."

"That includes dealing with crime, anti-social behaviour, graffiti and litter."

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GLAD TIDINGS: Crowds are expected to gather as Christmas comes early to the Dickensian streets of Rochester

Big weekend brings festive Dickensian fun

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

THOUSANDS of visitors will flock to Rochester this weekend for the annual Dickensian Christmas festivities.

The Victorian-themed winter weekender boasts hundreds of family-friendly events, including a magic lantern show, children's craft activities, a circus workshop and a theatrical performance of Charles Dickens' much-loved masterpiece, A Christmas Carol.

The Mayor of Medway, David Royle, will start proceedings at noon on Saturday, leading a grand parade through Rochester High Street.

Carol singers, theatre groups and children's entertainers are all set to perform during the Dickensian weekend, which will also see well-known characters such as Miss Havisham, Fagin and Scrooge make an appearance.

Medway Council's community services chief, Howard Doe, said he was looking forward to this year's Dickensian Christmas.

He said: "Each year the festival gets bigger and better and this year is no exception.

"As time goes on we are expanding the festival to encourage Christmas shopping and other seasonal activities that will help the event continue to grow.

"We are looking forward to the activities that have made Dickensian Christmas such a part of the south-east festival scene, but this year visitors can also enjoy special theatre performances for all the family, magic lantern demonstrations, Victorian toy workshops and much more.

"We also have our very own reindeer taking part – a must for children to see.

"We hope visitors enjoy our Christmas tribute to Dickens and enjoy the festive wonders Rochester has to offer."

Events new to the big weekend this year include: Victorian toy workshop, Eastgate House, 11.30am, 1pm, 2pm and 4.15pm, Saturday and Sunday; Reindeers, Rochester Castle Gardens, 10.30am-4.30pm, Saturday and Sunday; Mr Bonkers children's entertainer, Corn Exchange, 11am, 1.45pm,

2.30pm, 3.15pm and 4pm, Sunday; and A Christmas Carol, Visitor Information Centre, 1.45pm and 3.45pm, Saturday and Sunday.

Classic festival favourites include: the grand parade, High Street (Almon Place) to Castle Gardens, noon, Saturday and Sunday; Candlelit procession, High Street (Eastgate House) to Boley Hill, 4.45pm, Saturday and Sunday; Carols for Christmas, 5pm, Boley Hill, Saturday and Sunday; Traditional fun fair, Castle Gardens, 11am to 5pm, Saturday and Sunday; and Christmas craft fair, 11am to 5pm, Castle Gardens, Saturday and Sunday.

Those wishing to enter the festive mood early are also invited to attend the traditional Grand Mistletoe Ball, which takes place on Friday.

Guests will be treated to a three-course sit down dinner and entertainment from the Donn Barcott Band.

Tickets for the Grand Mistletoe Ball cost £25.75, call 01795 843317.

For more information about Rochester's Dickensian Christmas, call the Medway Visitor Information Centre on 01634 843666 or visit www.medway.gov.uk/dickensianchristmas.

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Watch film of year's Dickensian celebrations. Search 'Dickens'.

yourmedway NEWS IN BRIEF

Pair rob petrol station

TWO robbers made off with a cash-laden money box after attacking a security worker at a Gillingham petrol station.

The men, both wearing high visibility jackets, struck at 10am on Wednesday, November 25, shoving the guard to the ground inside the Shell petrol station in Nelson Road. They then picked up the box and fled the scene.

It is not yet known how much cash was inside the box.

The men are of black Caribbean appearance and are both around 30 years old.

They left the petrol station and ran onto Napier Road, where they got into a small white or silver car, possibly a Kia Picanto, and sped away.

No one was hurt in the incident and no weapons were used.

Witnesses are asked to call police on 01634 792177 or Kent CrimeStoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Tree-planting record aim

GREEN-fingered residents are being invited to plant their way into the record books.

Volunteers are needed to help the RSPB set a new Guinness World Record – by planting more than 653,000 trees in an hour.

The mass planting event – dubbed Tree O' Clock – will take place at hundreds of sites up and down the country, including the Cliffe Pools nature reserve.

Site warden Paul Hyde said: "We hope to plant over one thousand trees."

The race against the clock starts at Cliffe Pools at 11am on Saturday.

Staff discuss health issues

HEALTH officials will meet today to discuss how the recession will affect the future of Medway's healthcare.

In a series of public meetings, senior staff members will discuss how to improve the health system in the face of funding cutbacks.

NHS Medway's chief executive Marion Dinwoodie said: "Our priorities for healthcare in Medway remain pressing and we need to consider how we achieve them in what we know will be challenging times ahead."

The first meeting takes place tonight at the Woodlands Youth Centre, Woodlands Road, Gillingham, from 6.30pm.

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Cricket is at art of former captain

FORMER England cricket captain Michael Vaughan has combined his love of sport and art by creating a unique collection of work that is on display at Bluewater.

But unlike most other artists, the 35-year-old 2005 Ashes winner produced his art by ditching the conventional paintbrush and picking up a bat and ball.

Vaughan calls the unusual technique 'artballing' and he bowls or bats a paint-covered cricket ball – just as he would on the pitch – onto a canvas placed on the floor or wall.

The style, known as abstract expressionism or action painting, was popular between the 1940s and 1960s and made famous by artist Jason Pollock.

Vaughan – who retired from first-class cricket in June – said his paintings capture defining moments in his career and the drama of the much-loved sport.

"At first it was a bit of fun," he said. "But the more I got into it, the more I started to take it seriously."

"I began collecting contemporary art about four years ago and then about 12 months ago one of my friends told me about Martina Navratilova was using her tennis balls and racket to paint."

Vaughan decided to do the same and escaped to a warehouse in Yorkshire shortly after retirement to create his masterpieces. His work has already caught the eye of industry experts who have billed it as "Damien Hurst meets Jackson Pollock".

Vaughan said: "The paintings show defining moments in my career. One is the moment we won the Ashes in 2005."

To see Vaughan's four limited edition prints go to Castle Galleries in Bluewater. Prices start at under £300. Visit www.castlegalleries.com.

Motorists are 'cash cow' for Town Halls

■ BY MARIJKE COX

MOTORISTS' groups have accused councils of using motorists as a "cash cow" after town halls raked in more than £6 million in parking fines over the past year.

Findings published by the TaxPayers' Alliance and the Drivers' Alliance showed the total collected by Kent's 12 district and borough councils, and Medway, in 2008-09 was £6,399,532.

The fines are levied for people parking illegally, such as on double yellow lines, and drivers who overstay on parking meters.

Fines range from £50-70 and are halved if drivers pay up within two weeks.

Despite this being £900,999 less than the previous year, representatives from driving groups slammed the authorities for using motorists as a "money-making scheme" through on-street and off-street parking enforcement.

Ian Taylor, spokesman for the Association of British Drivers in Kent, said councils are using the county's motorists as a cash cow.

"They've had the sense not to push it further in the recession and we're thankful that some councils have frozen charges and offered free parking in some areas. But local authorities should not use fines to make money."

"We know they are worried about government grants being cut and so they are obviously concerned about funding, but at the same time they can't rely on motorists to bring money in."

"We understand people can't just park where they like and block roads and entrances, there has to be a penalty for that – I personally think perhaps the police should enforce it."

"But councils use these penalties as part of their crusade to curtail car use and bring in funds. They estimate how much they will make each year out of penalty charge notices and use it as part of their budget."

"If everyone became a law-abiding citizen I wonder what this would do to their finances."

Mr Taylor said part of the problem is the high charges councils levy in car parks across the county.

"In some cases it's cheaper to park in commercial car parks," he said. "I live in Dover and the car park behind the Charlton Centre is commercially run and charges are almost half the price of the council-run car parks."

Councils say the cash raised from fines is used to pay for parking services.

Figures showed Maidstone, Medway

COUNCIL PARKING PENALTIES YEAR ON YEAR

COUNCIL	FINES 07/08 (£)	FINES 08/09 (£)
Ashford	348,516	271,800
Dartford	267,795	274,139
Dover	487,164	390,884
Canterbury	645,264	663,362
Gravesham	439,002	402,613
Maidstone	960,851	859,619
Medway	1,195,272	1,048,704
Sevenoaks	238,192	257,699
Shepway	369,037	451,668
Swale	307,565	256,631
Thanet	431,230	318,199
Tonbridge & Malling	385,438	261,526
Tunbridge Wells	1,225,205	942,688
TOTAL	£7,300,531	£6,399,532

Canterbury and Tunbridge Wells councils brought in the most money from parking penalties.

However, Maidstone, Medway and Tunbridge Wells have seen a drop in the number of fines issued in the past year. But Canterbury City Council has risen by £18,098.

Parking services manager Clive Metcalfe denied that Canterbury council was using motorists to make money. It is grossly inaccurate to suggest that issuing of penalty charge notices is designed for this purpose.

"Penalty charge notices the council distribute have fallen since the council took over the service in 2000, along with the number of staff engaged in the process."

Recession

"They are only issued when a contravention of parking traffic regulations occur."

He stated that money recovered from on-street parking fines contributed to the cost of providing the parking service which is carried out on behalf of Kent County Council.

He added: "Income from off-street parking fines is controlled and managed by the city council and goes towards its general revenue account. It's not a money spinner."

"Our enforcement officers do not have targets. The process is designed to ensure that traffic flows freely through the district without causing a hindrance, obstruction or damage."

A spokesman from Sevenoaks District Council, where figures showed a rise of £19,507 in fines since last year, said they are issued to

people who have chosen to park illegally.

"The council has a legal duty to enforce parking restrictions which have been introduced to improve road safety, reduce traffic jams and keep our roads clear for emergency vehicles."

"In recent months, the council has in fact been asked by communities to step up parking enforcement and, in accordance with their wishes, we have increased parking patrols in these areas by as much as 50 per cent."

"Local councils, business groups and residents have told us the additional enforcement has drastically improved parking problems in their communities."

He added: "It is difficult to compare income between 2007-08 and 2008-09, as the pricing structure for penalty charge notices was significantly altered by central government during this period."

"The cost for less serious offences was reduced, while the cost of more serious contraventions saw an increase."

"The income generated by penalty charge notices helps to pay towards the council's parking services."

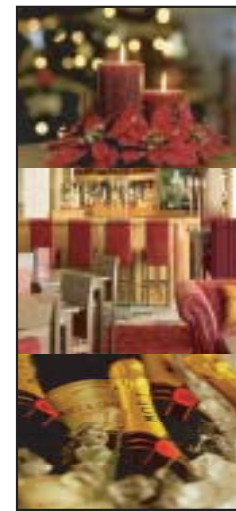
These include payments for civil enforcement officers and putting restrictions and parking bays in place.

But Peter Roberts, chief executive of the Drivers' Alliance, insists parking enforcement across the UK has become a massive money-making industry.

"We are seeing unscrupulous and target driven enforcement of parking laws where the penalties far outweigh the offence," he said.

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QUESTION & ANSWER

TONY RANDALL



Q Tell us a little about yourself.

A I have worked for Medway Council's youth service for four years. I currently work at Strood youth centre. Before that I worked in radio in London.

Q Tell us about Strood youth centre

A The centre is open every night for young people aged between 10 and 19. It provides a wide selection of activities and a place to socialise, meet new friends and learn new skills. We offer information, support and advice.

Q What is your role?

A I aim to create an environment that is fun and where young people have a voice within their local community and feel valued. I give young people lots of opportunities to empower themselves and let them know it's OK to make mistakes and learn from them. I help them realise their full potential and make a positive contribution to their community.

Q What skills do you need for your job?

A Good communication is central to the job I do. When working with the young people, their families and other people I come in con-

tact with, it's all about listening and questioning, understanding and responding. That might be on a one-to-one basis or in a group. Being able to support a young person to reach their own decisions, establish respectful and trusting relationships with them and being able to safeguard and promote their welfare and ensure their well-being and quality of life.

Q Best and worst parts of job?

A Best is working with young people and see them develop into young adults, and the fun and sense of pride you get.

The worst part is that I always want to do more for the young people but there are never enough hours in the day.

Q What are the main issues young people raise with you?

A They know they can talk to me or any youth worker in confidence and we will always be non judgemental. They have a wide range of issues they will talk to us about, from relationships, the environment, politics, perhaps something they watched on TV or heard on the radio. Sometimes they just want someone who will listen to them.

Q What kind of activities do you organise?

A I always consult with the young people I work with and work around that. Recently

we went to Hospital Radio Medway and recorded a two-hour show for the patients. We visited the RSPCA in Leybourne where we were shown around the centre by an inspector. The young people now want to collect things for the RSPCA, like blankets and food etc. Within the centre we have a music recording studio, X-box room, computers, pool tables, a big sports hall and a new kitchen.

Q Teenagers are given a hard time, what more can be done?

A We work closely with other agencies and partners to give them the help and support that is required. Believe in our young people and give them a chance to shine.

Q What do you do in your spare time?

A I love music and go to concerts when I can. Oh and I'm a big fan of Manchester United.

Q Tell us something other people don't know about you

A Many years ago when I was working in radio I had a walk on part in Grange Hill, and many a time in the early 90s I used to travel with Take That (before they were famous) to watch them perform at gigs.

E-mail tony.randall@medway.gov.uk for more information about Strood Youth Club

Q & A

The Medway Council youth service worker spoke to **Simon Robinson** about his role at Strood Youth Club, how he believes he can help teenagers to reach their potential, and his brief time on tour with Take That

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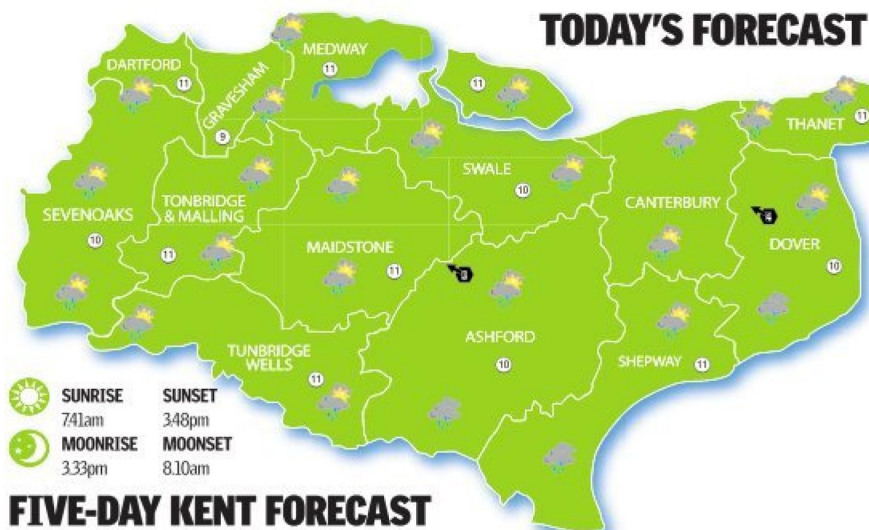
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	Sunday	3:26pm	6.2m
Dover	Saturday	12:46pm	6.6m
	Sunday	1:42pm	6.5m
Dungeness	Saturday	12:42pm	7.8m
	Sunday	1:28pm	7.6m
Ramsgate	Saturday	1:16pm	5.1m
	Sunday	2:12pm	4.9m
Sheerness	Saturday	2:27pm	5.9m
	Sunday	3:16pm	5.9m
Whitstable	Saturday	2:37pm	5.4m
	Sunday	3:26pm	5.3m



AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	6°C	Madrid	9°C
Athens	19°C	New York	11°C
Barcelona	13°C	Paris	7°C
Beijing	11°C	Rome	18°C
Bombay	30°C	Sydney	19°C
Cape Town	21°C	Tenerife	23°C
Cardiff	6°C	Tokyo	10°C
Gibraltar	14°C	Vancouver	10°C
Hong Kong	22°C	Warsaw	7°C
Las Palmas	23°C	Wellington	14°C

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	8°C	11°C	9°C	9°C	10°C	Gravesend	7°C	11°C	10°C	10°C	10°C
Canterbury	8°C	11°C	9°C	9°C	9°C	Maidstone	7°C	11°C	10°C	9°C	10°C
Chatham	8°C	11°C	10°C	9°C	10°C	Ramsgate	8°C	11°C	9°C	9°C	9°C
Dartford	7°C	11°C	10°C	10°C	10°C	Rochester	8°C	11°C	10°C	9°C	10°C
Dover	8°C	10°C	9°C	9°C	8°C	Sevenoaks	6°C	9°C	8°C	7°C	8°C
Faversham	8°C	11°C	10°C	9°C	10°C	Sittingbourne	8°C	11°C	10°C	9°C	10°C
Folkestone	8°C	10°C	9°C	9°C	8°C	Tonbridge	7°C	11°C	9°C	9°C	10°C
Gillingham	8°C	11°C	10°C	9°C	10°C	Tun Wells	7°C	11°C	9°C	9°C	10°C



FLY TO PUB: Be at The Eagle on Tuesday, December 9

Top bands tune up for Help the Heroes charity night

TOP bands will swoop into The Eagle next week to perform at a charity fundraiser.

Pop/rock acts Hong Kong Phooey, Kudos and Train Set have all been added to the Rochester High Street venue's Help for Heroes live line-up and more bands are set to be confirmed in the coming days.

A pub spokesman said: "The action-packed fundraising event has already been endorsed by dozens of professional rock, pop, jazz and folk musicians who have offered to play on stage totally free of charge."

"We've also lined up some intriguing mystery guests who have promised to play."

The charity night also includes a raffle with prizes including bottles of bubbly, meal vouchers at leading restaurants and travel tickets to the continent.

Proceeds of the event will be given to the Help for Heroes charity, which supports Britain's wounded servicemen.

The night takes place on Tuesday, December 9, from 7.30pm.

For more information call 01634 409090.

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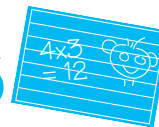
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BREAK TIME

Governor of the year wins trip to Paris

TOP school governor Robert Twist will head to Paris in the near future after scooping a Medway education award.

Mr Twist, of St William of Perth Roman Catholic Primary School, won the trip for two as part of his Medway School Governor of the Year award prizes.

He also received £100 worth of books for the Rochester school's library.

Mr Twist, who has been a governor at the school for three years, picked up the award at a ceremony on Saturday, November 21.

He was commended for his energy and enthusiasm in leading the school's governing body and working alongside the school's head.

Medway Council's director of children and adults services Rose Collinson, who presented the award, said: "Governors are committed volunteers from all walks of life who add tremendous value to the work of schools."

"They do a fantastic job to ensure children and young people in Medway have the best start in life, and I would like to congratulate them for all their hard work."



Little chefs mixing it up at toddlers' cookery lessons

■ BY MATHEW BEECH

YOUNGSTERS in Lordswood have been cooking up a storm.

The mini masterchefs are receiving culinary lessons at the Lordswood Children's Centre.

The five-week course aims to teach the toddler trainees and their families how to cook healthy meals.

In the first lesson on Thursday, November 19, the children created a series of festive treats including Christmas puddings.

The courses, which are run at the centre in Lordswood Lane and cost £1 per family, pass on simple recipes which can be made at home by the little chefs, who are all aged under five.

So far the culinary juniors have been taught how to prepare, weigh and measure out the ingredients, with their creations being recorded in a chef's diary alongside photos of their meals.

Medway Council's children's services boss Les Wicks said: "It's brilliant to see children's centres in Medway are offering children the opportunity to enjoy cooking with their families."

"I would encourage all the families to give the recipes a go at home and wish all the little chefs good luck with next week's cooking."

The Lordswood Children's Centre is part of Medway Council's Sure Start scheme, which runs the multi-use centre as a community hub where a series of events are run for the youngest residents.

The next Little Chefs course starts in January. For more information and to sign up, contact the centre on 01634 333670.



BUSY COOKS : Clockwise from above, Rhys Thomas, two, with mum Claire, Isabell Fridd, three, and mum Claire and their finished Christmas pudding, and Daisy Webb, two, stirs up her mixture ready for cooking



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Youth leader calls for curriculum change

■ BY MARIJKE COX

POLITICS should be part of the schools' national curriculum, according to the leader of the Kent Youth County Council.

Rhys George, 18, told Yourpapers that education was key for young people to have a better understanding of the political system. "We are the next generation," he said.

"It's so important that young people understand what's going on so they have a voice."

"The youth council has been pushing for political education to be on the syllabus at school for year seven pupils and upwards."

Support

"We've got government ministers' support and have been speaking to people to see what we can do."

His comments came as the newly elected members of the youth council were announced yesterday, naming the young people who will represent youngsters across Kent.

There were 106 candidates battling it out for the 48 seats that were up for grabs and more than 30,000 people were expected to vote.

Last year, around 30,000 people turned out to the polling stations, but this year, with the highest number of candidates standing ever, it was predicted to be even more.

There were four seats available to represent each of the 12 district or borough councils and candidates could stand for election in the area they live or where they go to school or college.

The youth council is made up of 48 elected members aged between 11 and 18-years-old, who meet 10 times a year in the council chambers at County Hall in Maidstone.

Committee meetings are also held throughout the year to discuss ongoing campaigns and issues.

They work closely with officers and members of Kent County Council, letting them know about the concerns of the county's young people.

Members of the youth council also make up the UK Youth Parliament to take county matters to the national forum.

Already they have brought in a travel scheme called the Freedom Bus Pass which provides unlimited travel for young people in Kent for one payment per year of £50.

It proved so successful in east Kent it was rolled out across the whole county last year.

Rhys said: "We work closely with members of KCC and the leader Paul Carter who helps us with our aims."

"The youth council is apolitical though so we try and avoid getting too deep into politics when making decisions."

From next year, the youth council will also have more control over its own budget.

Currently, members are invited by different projects and budget holders within KCC to represent the views of young people and recommend how money should be spent.

But they recently advised on KCC's overall budget which will be decided next February and the youth members' views will be presented as part of that decision-making process.

Rhys said he is excited about the year ahead.

"I was elected a year ago and it's been really good fun," he said. "I'm looking forward to seeing some new faces – it will change the dynamics of the group."

"The new members will be really eager to go out and do things straight away."

Rhys, who lives on the Isle of Sheppey, said he always had an interest in politics, thanks

to his family.

"I was lucky they made sure I understood politics and what was going on in the country," he said.

"But not everyone has this. This is why we're pushing for political education at school."

"We're also trying to get the voting age lowered to 16 so young people have more of a voice."



RALLY: leader of the Kent Youth County Council, Rhys George, is campaigning to make politics a compulsory subject

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MAGIC: Imelda Staunton starred alongside Daniel Radcliffe in Harry Potter

Film star shows wild side in Kent

AWARD-winning Imelda Staunton has paid a visit to the University of Kent to celebrate the 20th anniversary of a wildlife institute.

The British star, who is famous for her many roles on stage and screen including Dolores Umbridge in the Harry Potter films, compered an evening of entertainment with her actor husband Jim Carter.

The pair are known for their love of wildlife and jumped at the chance of being involved with the celebrations for the Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE).

DICE was founded in 1989 by Professor

Ian Swingfield OBE at the University of Kent and named after naturalist and TV presenter Gerald Durrell.

It offers students courses in conservation and biodiversity and gives them the chance to carry out research internationally.

Around 250 people attended the celebrations on Tuesday night.

Dr Susanna Paisley, honorary research fellow and DICE director of development, said she was thrilled with the turnout.

"Imelda and Jim did a fantastic job," she said.

"It really was a brilliant night which showed off what DICE is about."

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yourmedwayblogger

Gary Wright questions whether giving aid to illegal immigrants in Calais is the right thing to do this winter



Is Kent Refugee Help making a difficult situation even worse?

ARE we really doing the right thing taking blankets and clothes to illegal immigrants waiting to cross to the UK from Calais?

This coming weekend, volunteers from Kent Refugee Help will travel to Calais to hand out clothes, sleeping-bags and blankets to immigrants in the French port.

I believe we should be asking 'Why?'.

Kent Refugee Help is a registered charity which helps people who have been detained at the Immigration Centre in Dover.

On the surface the idea of crossing the Channel to make sure the assembled migrants are able to survive the onset of winter can only be seen as a decent act of human kindness.

Volunteer Kate Adams points out that it is a 'humanitarian crisis' made worse since the French authorities in September tore down the wooded encampment area known as 'The Jungle' where up to 800 immigrants lived – waiting to smuggle themselves into Britain.

But in September the French government

demonstrated it would play a part in breaking the illegal immigration chain that leads from Africa to Britain by making it more difficult to 'live' in Calais. So, why are British people going to Calais to help make it easier for illegal immigrants to stay there?

It is getting cold and the hand-out (funded with a United Nations grant and working with the No Borders Network) has been timed to coincide with Christmas – which will mean little to most would-be asylum-seekers.

These people are in France already, a fine civilised country. And if they care to retrace their steps, the Mediterranean coast is far milder at this time of year. I was in Calais a month ago and there was still plenty of evidence of young people being corralled by police and fed by volunteers.

And do not forget, the people of Calais have to suffer being the assembly point for immigrants with no interest in their community.

Sangatte was where 'asylum seekers' assembled between 1999 and 2002, just a few miles away. There the French Red Cross ran a camp for the assembled mass.

I visited it in 2001. Inside the giant hangar

it was seething – overflowing lavatories and overcrowding. I learned the people all had a common dream: a better life in Britain.

A lad in his late teens shared his heart-wrenching story of a tortuous four-week journey across two continents, hiding in ships and trucks, being met and moved on to the next leg thanks to \$10,000 paid by his father to people-traffickers. He was now just 22 miles from his goal. I understood his desperation.

But I also met people who lived in Sangatte, which has a population of just 800. They were outnumbered two-to-one by would-be asylum seekers. They were overwhelmed – and their homes, land and quality of life were, too. I understood their desperation.

I don't doubt the sincerity of Kent Refugee Help, but it needs to be careful. France, like the rest of the EU, wants asylum seekers to stay in the first safe country they reach and the chain of economic migration broken.

That means those organisations which rely on refugees for their work in Kent might be unnecessary. We must consider carefully whether we should be encouraging people to stay in Calais.

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If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the news editor, **Simon Robinson**, on 01303 817145 or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Medway blogger then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of around 550 words) and email it to the news editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to www.yourmedway.co.uk.

Write to The Editor, Yourmedway, KoS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

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WIN Alvin and the Chipmunks goodies

ALVIN and the Chipmunks 2: The Squeakquel – out on the December 21 – brings back our favorite furry brothers, Alvin, Simon and Theodore.

Because of a freak accident involving Alvin and Dave Seville, they go to live with Dave Seville's cool cousin Toby and must enroll in school, just like every other kid.

School presents new challenges to these rock stars, like dealing with peer pressure, school sports and, of course, girls.

By girls we mean the Chipettes, who are man-



aged by Ian Hawke, the Chipmunks' greedy former manager who wants to turn them into the next big thing. At the outset, there is a rivalry between the Chipettes and the Chipmunks, but in the end they realise that they make great friends and a great musical team. KOS Media, publishers of this news-



paper, has managed to get hold of five great sets of Alvin and the Chipmunks merchandise, including an 'iPod hoodie', watch, fridge magnets, mini-recorder microphone and lots more.

Plus, Vue in Thanet has kindly offered tickets to see Alvin and the Chipmunks 2: The Squeakquel to the first prize-winner drawn.

To enter, simply answer the question below and send your entry, on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number, to: Alvin and the Chipmunks competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

The closing date is Thursday, December 10, 2009.

Question: When does Alvin And The Chipmunks 2: The Squeakquel hit the big screens?

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TALK TIME

TONY FAULKNER

The chairman for the Medway Ramblers talks about the group and gives advice and tips to would-be walkers.



Tell us a bit about yourself

I have been walking all my life and am now 62. My earliest memories of walks are with my parents in the Scottish Highlands when I was about four years old while my father was doing a tour of duty at Rosyth Dockyard. I remember the views, the glens and the excitement of climbing high enough to find snow in the shady hollows. My wife Ann and I are now retired but while we were working we walked at weekends and holidays when we could, doing longer walks as our two children grew older. In those days we walked as a family and it was only as our children became more independent that we discovered the Medway Ramblers. We have seen that this is a pattern with many people who join our ramblers group. Almost as soon as I retired I was asked if I would be the chair person for Medway Ramblers and I was honoured to be able to accept. It is also only since we have been retired that Ann and I have felt that we have the time to plan and lead walks.

What advice would you give to others wanting to explore the countryside?

My first suggestion would, of course, be to join the Medway Ramblers. You can find our walks on The Ramblers web site, in local libraries, health centres and country parks. If you would rather walk on your own then search out a book of walks in Kent, of which there are many, and choose your walk. Start with shorter ones and build up your stamina. Dress for the weather and buy a good pair of walking boots for longer walks. If you want to walk with Medway Ramblers, you will be made very welcome and will discover many delights that you never knew existed.

YOUR LETTERS

Car park prices dropped

CAR parks across Medway will be free at specific times during the Christmas shopping period to help retailers tackle the recession. All 42 of the Medway Council-owned car parks will be free on four days – giving local motorists a total of 4,800 free spaces. The offer will run from 10am to 6pm on Thursday, December 17, all day on Saturday, 18 and Sunday 19 and Christmas Eve. Medway Council's front line services boss Phil Pinner said: "We want to do something to encourage shoppers to stay in Medway in the run-up to Christmas."

The business of free town parking

I see that Medway Council is going to give us three days and one evening of free parking in the run up to Christmas. They say that it is to boost trade in our towns. At last the council is starting to realise that their draconian parking restrictions is one of the reasons why our towns are in decline.

One question to ask is, will these free parking ties really boost the Christmas trade in Medway? And what about the rest of the year? If the council wants to build up the Medway towns' trade, they should make up to four hours free parking for shoppers during the week, free parking on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays and free parking after 6pm for the whole year.

This could really build up our towns and fill the empty shop units that we have. There are about 60 in Chatham High Street alone. We have free parking in Hempstead Valley, Dockside and Bluewater, who are



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putting up advertising all over our towns again this year, and are advertising on TV.

Has Medway got advertising in other towns and are we advertising on TV?

Come on Medway Council, it is

the start of a good gesture but doesn't go anywhere near far enough. Give us more free parking throughout the year and try to get more businesses here and fill up the empty shop units.

Peter Nassan, Chatham, by letter

Be kind to reindeer this Christmas

As the Christmas season approaches, reindeer are being transported up and down the country to be used as entertainment in parades, 'Santa's grottos' and other festive events.

Uprooting reindeer from their natural habitat and keeping them in captivity causes significant health and welfare problems, and according to research at the Veterinary Laboratories Agency, is thought to be linked to the recent increase in deaths in young reindeer, including seven reindeer who died from liver and gut flukes in Shropshire and another who died from a lung disease on a farm near Winchester.

Quite simply, reindeer are not suited to living in the UK.

Animal Aid urges people to be compassionate this Christmas, and choose cruelty-free entertainment. For a free guide to having a Compassionate Christmas, please contact Animal Aid on 01732 364546 or info@animalaid.org.uk.

Ashley Owen, Animal Aid, Tonbridge, by email



Be HIV aware this World Aids Day

The number of people being diagnosed with HIV at the Trust has risen year-on-year for the

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Award Winning Company

past five years. In 2004 15 people were diagnosed with HIV and in 2008 47 were diagnosed. If HIV is left untreated, the immune system becomes weakened and is unable to fight off diseases which it would normally cope with – it is then a person is considered to have developed AIDS.

Being diagnosed with HIV isn't the same as it was ten or 20 years ago. Back then, people used to think of it as a death sentence as there was little that we could do for them.

But now, there are many more treatment options open to them and if they are diagnosed early, their life expectancy can remain unaffected, and it needn't lead to AIDS.

The symptoms of being first exposed to the HIV virus are very mild and can easily be mistaken for cold or flu. But if you are in an at-risk group and you have these symptoms, you should let your doctor know as soon as possible. At risk groups are men who have sex with men, injecting drug users and people who have received treatment with blood products (although this mode of acquiring the infection in the UK has been very rare since 1985) – HIV is passed on through bodily secretions (blood, semen, vaginal fluids or breast milk).

If you have had cold or flu-like symptoms and you fit into one of

these categories, you should get yourself tested immediately. The earlier treatment is given, the more effective it will be and the less of an impact it will have on your life.

At Medway Maritime Hospital, we offer an open access 24-hour HIV testing service, from Monday to Thursday, so it couldn't be simpler to get diagnosed and begin treatment. It's vitally important that people are aware of the symptoms, especially if they are in an at risk group.

Nationally, a quarter of people with HIV aren't even aware of it and aren't receiving any treatment. If we're all HIV-aware, then that's something we can easily change.

Dr Chula Wijesurendra, Consultant at the Medway Maritime Hospital's Genito Urinary Medicine department, by email

Help stop extinction of world's animals

I am writing to you to let your readers know about an appeal to save the lives of more than 25,000 animals in the wild and alleviate the suffering of animals in captivity, including many threatened and endangered species.

As part of the quarter-century anniversary of The Born Free

Foundation, an appeal is being launched in aid of our planet's threatened wildlife. Over the past 25 years, with the support of partners such as Land Rover, Born Free has taken action worldwide to protect threatened species and stop individual animal suffering. But as the appeal is launched, less than 3,000 endangered wild tigers cling to survival; wild lion populations have fallen from 100,000 in 1980 to just 23,000 today; Africa's elephant population has dropped from 1.3 million to 450,000 in the past three decades; and Eastern Lowland gorillas may number just 5,000.

Dozens of celebrities from the world of music and entertainment are supporting the cause including Martin Clunes, Joanna Lumley, Peter Andre, Nick Knowles, Karen Hardy, Graham Norton, and Mark Austin. Maestros including Bryan Adams, Rolf Harris, Mutya Buena and Tony Mortimer, performed at a concert on Saturday, November 14 entitled Wild & Live! at the Royal Albert Hall to demonstrate their support for the appeal.

Supporting the work of Born Free is perhaps more important now than ever before. For more information please log on to www.bornfree.org.uk.

Will Travers, Chief Executive, Born Free Foundation, by email

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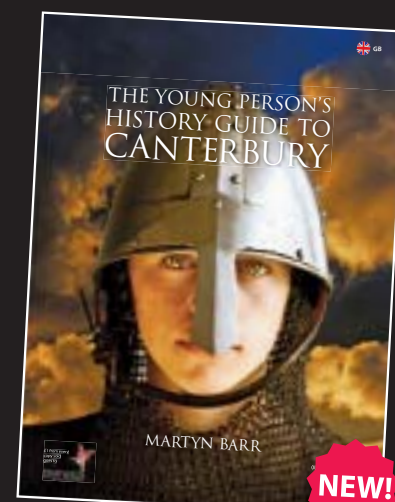
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George of the jungle takes on panto role

Star Trek legend follows in footsteps of pal Joe Swash

ALADDIN

Friday, December 11 to Sunday, January 3
Central Theatre, Chatham

A VERY special star will beam down to Earth to appear in the Central Theatre's panto.

Hot on the heels of his great friend and I'm a Celebrity... co-star Joe Swash, George Takei will be entertaining Medway audiences over Christmas in Aladdin.

The former Star Trek actor will play the Emperor of China in the festive extravaganza, alongside Kent favourite Shaun Williamson and Phil Gallagher, otherwise known as CBeebies' Mister Maker, who is originally from Chatham.

Takei became famous as Mr Sulu in the long-running sci-fi saga and won new fans when he appeared on the ITV reality show, I'm a Celebrity...Get Me Out of Here last year. During his stay in the jungle, Takei won over viewers with his placid nature and was dubbed 'Gorgeous George' by Swash, the eventual winner.

It was Swash who persuaded Takei to tread the boards again, after he appeared in the Central Theatre's pantomime last year.

"I was back in England earlier this year and had dinner with Joe," Takei said. "He told me about the great experience he had and urged me to consider doing panto again."

"Joe raved about the wonderful audiences and the fun he had with the other actors. I was intrigued by the idea, but I had no idea that fate would have me following right in his footsteps, directly to the Central Theatre. I'm really looking forward to my first visit to Medway."

Also receiving top billing is Shaun Williamson, who rose to fame as Barry Evans in EastEnders and became something of a comedy icon following his role in Ricky Gervais' hit comedy, Extras. He has been extraordinarily busy ever since the first series aired in 2005 and recently filmed a brief cameo for Gervais' latest movie, The Invention of Lying.

Williamson returns to the Central Theatre to play Abanazar, following an absence of five years. He plays the villain to Phil Gallagher's Aladdin as they both search for the magic lamp and its genie who can grant wishes.

Gallagher presents Mister Maker, the arts and crafts show for under-sevens.

Also joining the cast are regulars Paul Burling as Wishee Washee and Claire Huckle as Princess Jasmine.

Ticket prices start at £12.50 for adults and £8.50 for children.

To book call the box office on 01634 338338 or log on to www.medwaypanto.co.uk.



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BOOMTOWN RATS
Saturday December 5
The Mick Jagger Centre, Dartford

WITH hits like She's So Modern and Like Clockwork, the Boomtown Rats became a music sensation in the late 70s.

The band made a star of its front man, the opinionated Bob Geldof, and became the first Irish band to score a UK number one with Rat Trap in 1978.

Two founder members of the band, Garry Roberts and Simon Crowe, will be joined by special guests Eddie and the Hot Rods on Saturday.

Formed in Ireland in 1975, the Boomtown Rats turned down a million-pound contract with Richard Branson's Virgin Records to sign up with the new record label, Ensign.

Their debut single, Looking After Number One, climbed to number 11 and kicked off a busy few years.

When an American student killed her school principal in 1979, Geldof was inspired to write the award-winning I Don't Like Mondays, which remains the band's best-known song.

The band played its last gig in 1986 and it would be 22 years before Roberts and Crowe got together again to form The Rats.

The concert starts at 8pm and tickets cost £18/£16. To book tickets call the box office on 01322 291100.

THAT'LL BE THE DAY

Friday, December 4
Assembly Hall Theatre,
Tunbridge Wells

GET into the party spirit when That'll Be The Day rocks and rolls into town with its Christmas Show.

As the UK's most successful touring rock 'n' roll production, the show entertains audiences all over the country with its infectious party vibe. Bring back the good old days and dance in the aisles to timeless festive classics, performed by a group of highly talented performers.

Comedy routines are interspersed with the hits to provide an evening of all-round entertainment. Whether you are stepping back in time to recall your youth or hearing these great tunes for the first time, That'll Be The Day is a great way to get the festive season underway.

The show stars Trevor,



Gary and the gang and has been entertaining audiences for 23 years, progressing from its early years as a seasonal show at a holiday camp to a well-established fixture on the theatre circuit. Audiences of all ages can

enjoy the timeless music in this feel-good production.

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £22/£20. Book online at www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk or call the box office on 01892 530613/532072.

MARTY WILDE

Monday, December 7
Orchard Theatre, Dartford

FIFTY years after he first rocked show business, Marty Wilde is still showing why he was born to rock and roll.

The music legend is currently on tour with his hugely popular show that features the best of his own hits, along with those of his contemporaries.

As one of the UK scene's leading figures in the late 50s and early 60s, Wilde has plenty of experience to draw on as he revisits the golden era of rock 'n' roll.

His much-loved songs include the hits Teenager in Love, Donna, Sea of Love and Jezebel, which were among his 13 consecutive hit records. Between them, they racked up a total 117 weeks in the charts and made Wilde a huge star.

Along with his band the Wildcats, Wilde will perform great songs such as Endless Sleep, Dream Lover, Bad Boy, Rubber Ball and many more. As well as great music, he will also share memories and anecdotes with the audience.

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £17.50/£15.50.

Book online at www.orchardtheatre.co.uk or call the box office on 01322 220000.



MEDWAY LEISURE

Send in your demos to find Band of Bands

THE hunt is on for Kent's best music talent as the 2010 Westcoast Band of Bands Competition opens.

Just 24 bands will be selected to compete at the Margate venue, with £1,000 on offer for the winner.

Send demos and band information to Band of Bands, Westcoast Bar, 3-5 King Street, Margate CT9 1DD by December 31. Demos will not be returned.

Artists show beauty of wood at exhibition

THE intrinsic beauty of wood is explored in Coppice, an exhibition running at Rochester Art Gallery and Craft Case.

Contemporary artists and makers have looked at ways of using wood in their work.

Coppice runs until February 7. Rochester Art Gallery is open from 10am to 5pm, Monday to Saturday, and 10.30am to 5pm on Sundays. Admission is free. For more information visit www.medway.gov.uk/arts.

Rub shoulders with Hoi Polloi at costume ball

PRINCES and paupers are invited to rub shoulders at Dickens World's Hoi Polloi Ball this weekend.

At the costumed ball on Saturday, revellers can enjoy a sausage and mash supper, dance to Skinnners Rats and enjoy other Dickensian fun.

The event will be held in the courtyard from 7.30pm and tickets cost £15. To book call 01634 890421 or visit www.dickensworld.co.uk.

Check out what's on at new leisure website

PEOPLE in Medway will never be bored again thanks to the launch of a new events and entertainment website.

Medway Council has created www.whatsonmedway.co.uk, an online guide to what's going on in the area, from festivals and concerts to library events and outdoor activities.

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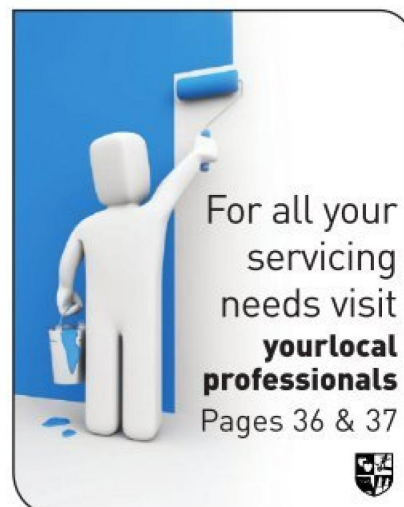
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yourmedwaymusic

This could be your chance to break into the business

■ BY TOM BETTS

A POPULAR auditions process is being re-opened to musicians who want to find a way into the music world.

The pathway into the music industry is a notoriously difficult one to navigate but Kent's Diverse Music is looking to increase their artist database and the chance for YOU to be a part of it is again on offer.

The Diverse Music Auditions aim to help the company put together a network of performers and musicians who want to try and get started in music.

The process began earlier this year and was a great success.

Many acts got in touch and visited the studios in Bilting, between Ashford and Canterbury, to work on new material.

The team have now decided to begin a second round of auditions and want artists to come forward and get involved.

It will give performers the chance to broaden their musical horizons and stand a chance of working with the team of creative director Malissa Whitehouse and producer Lee Colledge.

Malissa has a wealth of industry experience, working with names such as Travis and George Michael, as well as Capital Radio.

She said: "We want to open this up for a second time to find more talented individuals who feel they have something to offer. The auditions are totally free and we hope people from all over Kent will get in touch."

Lee, a technical whizz who specialises in



IN TUNE: Singer/songwriter Phil Tong (left) and producer Lee Colledge work on Phil's own material in the Diverse studio

rock, indie and alternative material, said: "There are so many people out there who want to break into music and who have a lot to offer but just don't know where to start."

"Contacting us could be a great move and we really hope for more talented people to come forward. We were really pleased with the response last time and are working with a lot of the artists now and making some great music. It's been really interesting and a lot of fun."

Hopefuls can also be added to the ever-expanding database which the team will be able to match singers with songwriters, musicians with bands and so on.

The project could lead to the formation of bands, new contacts and the benefit of the expertise of the industry experts who run the company.

Diverse creative director, Malissa Whitehouse said: "It's about opening up our doors to everyone so we find some great talent which we know is here in Kent. The possibilities are huge and we are excited about what the future holds. So get in touch."

Singers, songwriters, bands, rappers, rockers and everyone in between can apply to take part, with age or musical style no barrier.

To apply for an audition spot email Malissa@popsessions.co.uk.

Include a brief description of who you are, what you do and a picture of yourself and she will get back to you.

Within a matter of weeks you could find your ideas and material being worked on in a professional setting, helping you to take the first steps towards making your dream a reality.

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BEAT IT: Drummer Kyle Dusen, 11, shows off his skills at a Singathon in Greatstone



LIVE AND KICKING: Medway quartet UpCDownC perform on The Ether



TOP FIVE CHART

- 1 Gristlefridge - Wanna Be Famous (from Whitstable)
- 2 White Eyes - We Are Tides (from Canterbury)
- 3 Shelta - Let's Talk (from Bexley)
- 4 The Phalanxes - Old Black (from Herne Bay)
- 5 Shelta - Beautiful Girl (from Bexley)

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HARRY BROWN (18)



Sir Michael Caine plays a vigilante pensioner hunting down a gang of council estate thugs who killed his best friend. The 76-year-old is mesmerising as a war veteran with nothing to lose.

THE MEN WHO STARE AT GOATS (15)



George Clooney stars in The Men Who Stare at Goats, a deranged tale of US servicemen who are trained to become Jedi warriors, capable of killing with mind-power alone. Ewen McGregor co-stars.

MICHAEL JACKSON'S THIS IS IT (PG)



Hastily constructed from hundreds of hours of rehearsal footage, Kenny Ortega's documentary is a glowing tribute to the King Of Pop as he prepared for the most spectacular shows of his career.

From The Office to the classroom for Freeman

BY KATE WHITING

MARTIN Freeman is camera shy. The impish dirty-blond actor is standing awkwardly in an old-fashioned hotel library flashing a non-smile towards a photographer.

"I wish I had that talent of being able to accept a photograph being taken," he says, apologetically.

Almost 10 years since the role of Tim Canterbury in The Office made him famous, Martin still doesn't behave like a 'celebrity'.

You'll never catch him being papped at a nightclub or parading his two children in Hello magazine.

"I don't like it when I see people do it. I don't think they should be put in prison or anything, I just think that's not for me because I've never wanted to trade on anything else other than work. I'd rather be at home."

Equally, he's not about to appear in a reality TV show.

"What I try to resist is doing stuff that I don't want to do, just to get on telly. But if someone says, 'Do you want to go to Detroit and make a thing about Motown?' I'll do it because I'm interested in that."

"Or 'Do you want to have your picture taken by David Bailey?' - I hated that as well," he laughs. "But you go, 'All right', because that won't happen very often. But if it's, 'Do you want Hello to come in and meet your children?' - 'No.'"

Whether he likes it or not, Martin, 38, is now firmly back in the spotlight, promoting his new film Nativity!

He plays frustrated-actor-turned-primary-teacher Mr Maddens, who is tasked with putting on the nativity play and beating the rival posh independent school to a



PLAY TIME: Martin Freeman stars in new film Nativity!

five-star review in the local paper.

But having been dumped by his girlfriend Jennifer (Ashley Jensen) five years ago, Maddens hates Christmas.

Struggling to cope with the nativity task, he accidentally boasts to his rival that his ex-girlfriend, now a hotshot producer in LA, is coming over to film the nativity play.

Ignoring the old adage about never working with children and animals (in this case camels, donkeys and sheep), Martin threw himself into the film, which was conceived and directed by Debbie Isitt and entirely improvised.

"I loved the idea. I'd worked with Debbie before on Confetti and we had a meeting back in December 2007 about her next idea - she just described the outline of my character and his journey, and I was hooked."

Martin enjoyed being able to improvise.

VIEW THIS PREVIEW

yourkenttv.co.uk



"Debbie's general MO would be, 'We need to get from this point to this point by the end of the scene, away you go!'"

"How you get there is down to you, but you have to hit certain landmarks along the way. I think Debbie likes the uncertainty of what can happen in a moment."

Another draw of the film was the opportunity to work with Ugly Betty and Extras star Jensen. Martin admits the pair swapped notes on Ricky Gervais, their co-star in The Office and Extras.

"She was what you'd hope people should be who are doing something for a living that they really love. We should be quite nice, you shouldn't be a prick, because actually you're getting paid to do something you really enjoy."

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YOUR TV REVIEW

■ BY TOM BETTS

THE IMPRESSIONS SHOW WITH CULSHAW AND STEPHENSON
BBC One, 9.10pm, Saturday

DOCTOR WHO: DREAMLAND
BBC Two, 10am, Saturday

TRICKY things to get right, impression shows.

Make a good fist of it and a unique place in the national consciousness could be yours, but mess it up and you look like a total saddo.

Jon Culshaw is not a supreme master of his art, like Rory Bremner, yet he has enough in his locker to justify a show of his own.

While he is less brutal than his rivals, his new effort, The Impressions Show With Culshaw And Stephenson, still manages to score a few hits.

While his attempts at Bruce Forsyth, Boris Johnson and Jonathan Ross fall short (why bother when others have them down so well?), others are very good indeed.

It may not be the best-known of his targets, but his Dominic Littlewood (the bald guy who crops up on The One Show dispensing money-saving tips) is inspired and could probably pass for the real thing.

The Michael Macintyre he does is also top-notch, while it's high time someone had a decent stab at David Cameron, who, as probably the next Prime Minister, must be the holy grail for the top impressionists in Britain.

Still, for every impression that hits the mark, such as Simon Cowell, there's another that falls woefully short, like his Adrian Chiles.

This is one of those shows that you can happily dip in and out of.

It's not a triumph, but if you enjoy this sort of thing, then tune in and be



CARTOON TIME: The BBC have now animated the time-travelling exploits of Doctor Who

prepared to snigger at much of what's on offer.

• The BBC is determined to wring every last drop of David Tennant out of Doctor Who before he pops his time-travelling clogs and makes way for the new guy, Matt Smith, next year.

He's been a tremendously popular incarnation of the Time Lord, if not one of the true greats, and now his animated persona has been brought to screens for children and geeks everywhere.

This animated series takes a lead from Star Wars: The Clone Wars in style if not in content. It's a harmless enough outing, but with the main series, The Sarah Jane Adventures, Torchwood and now this, you wonder if even die-hard Doctor Who fans are getting fed up with the overkill.

This six-part serial will be broadcast on Saturday – tell the kids.

YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT



AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19)

A CREATIVE project comes to fruition, prompting you to look around for the next big opportunity. Establishing a steady routine should be your first order of business. This means you'll have to spend less time on pleasurable pursuits and devote more energy to work.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762



TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21)

YOU could finally receive money you've been expected for some time. Beware of spending it all in one place. If you're careful you can pay your bills and have a little left over for savings. Resist the urge to buy expensive luxury items, especially on credit.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753



LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23)

A FRIENDSHIP could be coming apart at the seams and there's nothing you can do. It's better to cut ties than force a relationship that has lost its purpose. Although such behaviour is contrary to your loyal nature, you need to break things off, even at the risk of seeming heartless.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756



SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

YOU may have to cancel personal plans at the last minute, which makes you angry. You've been looking forward to this outing for some time, but a financial shortage requires you to find more work. A job opportunity related to teaching or writing is worth taking.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759



PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20)

IT'S time to leave a difficult domestic situation behind. Moving to a new place, finding a different roommate or selling a property are among the possibilities. This change will result in an emotional wrench, but that can't be helped. Find a healthy outlet for your frustrations.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763



GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22)

YOU'LL be in great demand this week, both personally and professionally. This is a great time to step out of your comfort zone. You've been blessed with a multitude of talents. If you feel as if you've been thrust into a pigeonhole, work your way out of it.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754



VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23)

YOU could finally get word regarding a job or promotion. Don't be surprised if you're given a lot more responsibilities in the days ahead. Fortunately, a loved one is poised to help you make this transition. It's a little nerve-racking for a person like you to be in the spotlight.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757



SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)

AN engagement, marriage or business agreement changes the course of your life. Two heads are better than one this week. Don't try to undertake a difficult task all by yourself. Relations with a neighbour or relative will be improved if you extend an olive branch.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760



ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20)

SIGNING a contract makes an agreement official, which makes you nervous. You're the sort of person who doesn't like to be confined by a lot of legal formalities. Unfortunately, you need to make some official promises if you're going to move up the ladder of success.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752



CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23)

BURYING your head in the sand is no longer an option. You'll be forced to face some painful truths regarding a female friend, relative or neighbour. Although it pains you to admit this woman took advantage of you, there's no other conclusion. Console yourself with hard work.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755



LIBRA (Sep 24-Oct 23)

A LEGAL decision could be rendered, allowing you to move forward with career plans. Although you may not like the result, at least you won't be kept awake waiting for the verdict. Besides, better opportunities await you. It looks as if you'll finally be able to make use of your talents.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758



CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20)

A TOUGH work assignment comes to an end, leaving you more time for your personal life. Plan to visit a secret hideaway with your beloved. Your new lover could make a lot more money than you. This financial discrepancy will create a feeling of inequity.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

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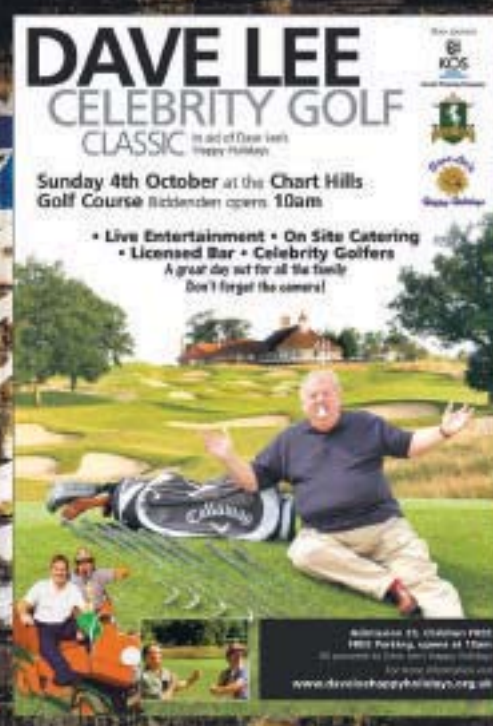
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MEDIUM

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HARD

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CRYPTIC CLUES

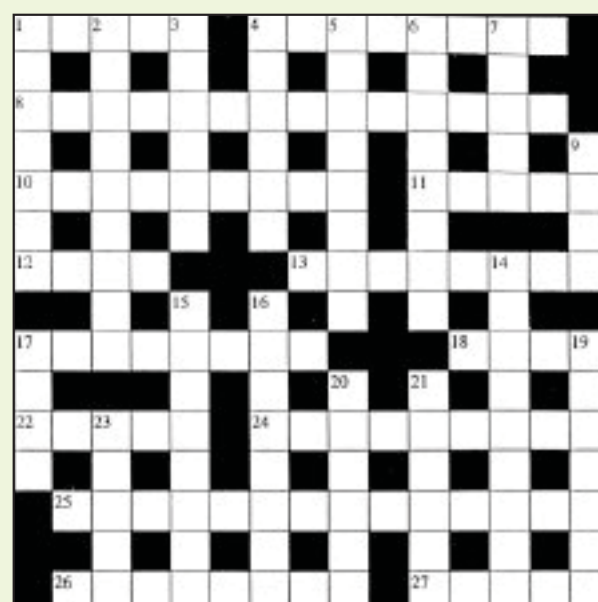
ACROSS

- 1 Shakespearean from Caracas came (5)
4 Fast mover over snow? One going over water (3-5)
8 Specific container (8-6)
10 Weather forecast for the Andes (4-5)
11 Came first with Kay losing article - shaky (5)
12 Photograph cross-beam (1-3)
13 Train fellow carriage driver (8)
17 Figure becoming shy in resentment (8)
18 Zodiacal apple? (4)
22 Was, say, to include lieutenant in some steps (5)
24 Grant, have focus adjusted (9)
25 Put on too much of an act (14)
26 Hero-worshiper round first shrub (8)
27 Only a fraction before the tenth (5)

DOWN

- 1 Complicated group (7)
2 Deny rates had been amended while one was inactive (9)
3 Aircraftman on line in agreement (6)
4 Lady had Jack and one non-picture card (6)
5 Where to find league leaders, it's above-board! (8)
6 Wait with coke travelling round Polish city (8)
7 Lady's excellent part (5)
9 Could start mixing any colour (4)
14 Deadly transgression? (6,3)
15 Hesitantly I tucked into dish at restaurant (8)
16 Shook, ever troubled in pound (8)
17 Roughly handle new piece (4)
19 Difference between two sides (7)
20 Whisper 'drink up' repeatedly (6)
21 Note picture first had some light (6)
23 Crossing up and down (5)

SCRIBBLE HERE



QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Cheek (5)
4 Delphinium (8)
8 Navigational system (9,5)
10 Skipped playfully (9)
11 Alloy (5)
12 Ceremonial act (4)
13 Teach (8)
17 Brown sugar (8)
18 Patch up (4)
22 Trinket (5)
24 Calumnies (anag.) (9)
25 Very quickly (2,1,4,2,5)
26 Remove a gag (8)
27 Demolished (5)

DOWN

- 1 Boast (7)
2 Final demand (9)
3 West Country National Park (6)
4 Fling (3,3)
5 Ebbing (8)
6 Fellow sailor (8)
7 German submarine (1-4)
9 Coagulate (4)
14 In complete agreement (9)
15 Fussy decoration (4-4)
16 Right through (4,1,2,1)
17 Arrears (4)
19 Ironed (7)
20 Hoarse (anag.) (6)
21 Religious friend (6)
23 Piece of stamped metal (5)

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LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No115

EASY

7	8	3	9	1	5	6	4	2
9	4	5	2	6	7	1	8	3
8	2	1	8	4	3	7	5	9
1	7	2	5	8	4	3	9	6
3	6	8	1	7	9	4	2	5
5	9	4	3	2	6	8	7	1
8	5	9	4	3	1	2	6	7
2	3	6	7	5	8	9	1	4
4	1	7	8	9	2	5	3	8

MEDIUM

3	5	2	9	1	6	8	7	4
8	7	1	2	4	5	6	9	3
4	9	6	8	3	7	1	5	2
2	4	7	8	5	8	9	3	1
9	1	8	7	2	3	5	4	6
5	6	3	1	9	4	2	8	7
1	3	9	4	8	2	7	6	5
6	2	5	3	7	9	4	1	8
7	8	4	5	6	1	3	2	9

HARD

3	5	6	9	7	2	4	8	1
7	2	4	8	1	5	9	3	6
9	1	8	4	6	3	5	2	7
8	7	5	6	3	4	2	1	9
1	4	9	2	8	7	6	5	3
8	3	2	5	9	1	7	4	6
5	9	3	7	4	8	1	6	2
2	6	1	3	5	9	8	7	4
4	8	7	1	2	6	3	9	5

CRYPTIC SOLUTION No115

ACROSS: 1 Codify 4 Stupid 10 About-turn
11 Irony 12 Explode 13 Unknown 14
Evasive action 16 Poetic licence 21
Placebo 22 Toby-jug 24 Climb 25 In reserve
26 Denver 27 Hybrid. **DOWN:** 1 Craven
2 Droop 3 Fatuous 5 Thicket 6 Protozoic
7 Drying 8 Queen Victoria 9 Pneumatic
tyre 15 Violation 17 Tremble 18 Embassy
19 Spiced 20 Agreed 23 Juror.

QUICK SOLUTION No116

Pressed 20 Ashore 21 Quaker 23 Jeton.
15 Front-row 16 From A to Z 17 Debt 19
6 Shipmate 7 U-boat 9 Clot 14 Unanimous
Ultimatum 3 Exmoor 4 Let fly 5 Reaching
Ummuzzle 27 Rased. **DOWN:** 1 Swinger 2
24 Masculline 25 At a rate of knots 26
Instrut 17 Demerara 18 Vamp 22 Biju
pilot 10 Gambolled 11 Metal 12 Rite 13
ACROSS: 1 Sauce 4 Larkspur 8 Automobile

Answers to all of this week's quizzes can be found on our website



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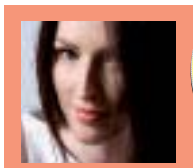
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WOMEN seeking men

MAKE IT LAST Slim female, 25, 5'10", long brown hair and blue eyes, caring and social, likes clubs, cinema, seeking a kind male, 30-45 for a relationship. Box 461558 **1**

MATCH OF THE DAY! Fun-to-be-with, blonde female, 25, 5ft 2, a woman who loves football! Enjoys going out and staying in, looking for a like-minded man, to be her soulmate. Box 446494 **1**

NOT YOUR BROWN-EYED GIRL, BUT... Blue-eyed brunette, 27, 5ft1, loves films, walking, darts, pop, singing, me time! Looking for honest guy with GSOH, to get to know. Box 880105 **1**

LOOKIN 4 A GUY WHO'S EASY ON THE EYE! 25yr old female, 5ft8, medium-curved body, NHS, enjoys reading, painting, cinema, walks, WLTW, tall, attractive male, 23-32, for friendship, maybe LTR. Box 442644 **1**

IS ANYONE OUT THERE? 31yr old easygoing, independent female, WLTW cuddly fella to enjoy the finer things in life, leading to LTR with the right person. Box 879931 **1**

GIVE AND TAKE IN LOVE Loving lady female, 30, blue eyes, brown hair, seeking LTR with male 30-35, 6ft+, no baggage, in the Maidstone area. Box 448471 **1**

HORSES FOR COURSES... Caring, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2", blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 384013 **1**

A FAIRYTALE ENDING! Princess Fiona, 34, looking to meet her Shrek. 5ft8, short brown/blonde hair, blue eyes, large build, seeks romantic caring guy for friendship, maybe more! Box 877957 **1**

HAPPY DAYS! Attractive, fun-loving female, 35, 5'4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, WLTW intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 308734 **1**

FEAST YOUR EYES ON ME... Hello I'm Andrea, 35, petite 5ft3, shoulder length curly hair. I enjoy eating out, cinema and I'm looking for friendship and possible long term relationship. Box 453039 **1**

WHAT YOU SEE... Young looking 36 year old, 5'4, brown eyes, slim, one daughter, hard working, very sincere and caring, genuine, GSOH, seeks similar male 33-43. Rochester. Box 460307

STARRY NIGHTS Hello I'm Sarah, single mum from Kent, brown hair enjoy swimming nights in/out looking for a caring man to share the best thing in life. Box 878378

HISTORIC MEETING? Mum of three, 36, long mousey hair, blue eyes, interested in historical places, music, eating for nice, seeks kind, caring, genuine male 35-49, non-smoker, for LTR. Box 440693 **1**

I LIKE DRIVING IN MY CAR Honest, caring woman, 36, 5ft5, slim, blue eyes. I'm caring, honest, have four children. I enjoy drives, horse riding. Maidstone. Box 456159 **1**

SEIZE THE DAY Loving female, 36, 5ft4, brown hair, green eyes, likes socialising, staying in, seeks genuine male for friendship and more. Box 428666 **1**

LOVE TO LOVE YOU Lovely female, 36, 5ft4, medium/large build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual! Seeking male for long-term/serious relationship. Box 438102

MEND A BROKEN HEART Single mum, 37, fun-loving, been hurt in the past, looking for nice, genuine guy for hopeful happiness - no time wasters! Box 890553 **1**

CUTE AS CAN BE Cute single mum of four, 38, Kent-based, into most things, looking for friendship, possibly romance. Box 897983 **1**

EASY TO LOVE Lovely African female, 39, 5ft4, likes football, socialising, cinema, and cooking, looking for a loving and caring male for a LTR. Ashford. Box 460968 **1**

YOU CAN'T RESIST... Fun loving intelligent lady, 39, blonde, attractive, GSOH, lots of energy, one daughter, now looking for that special man to share life with. Tonbridge. Box 459991 **1**

AN AFRICAN DIAMOND 38yr old African girl, likes cooking, going out, watching films and dancing, seeking a loving and caring boy for companionship and more. Box 446876 **1**

DON'T LET ME DOWN Pretty, black female, 38, 5ft4, like football, socialising and cooking, looking for a loving and caring male, 38-42, for a LTR. Box 446684 **1**



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YOUNG-AT-HEART Attractive 38yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy physique, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, seeks loving, fun male, for friendship/relationship. Box 901893 **1**

A NICE BOTTLE OF WINE Lovely, glossy brunette, 39yr old, petite, bubbly and loving, enjoys theatre, music and eating out, with a professional, loving and tactile male for a relationship. Box 442551 **1**

NO TIES Lonely, bored, professional Tunbridge Wells Asian lady, 40, WLTW slim, single, solvent, professional white male 40-50 for company, fun, love and laughter. Box 443573 **1**

TAKE A LITTLE TIME Social lady, 41, 5'3", gosh, likes family life, going out, cinema, walks, staying in, seeking a fun male for company. Sheerness. Box 461145 **1**

TOUGH BUT TENDER Loving single mum, 40, likes clubbing but especially nights in with a scary film, seeking loyal, tough, tender man to share my life with. Whitstable. Box 461047 **1**

CAN'T SMILE WITHOUT YOU Professional female, 41, 5ft, brown hair/eyes, likes country pubs and walks, looking for a gent, 42-55, to share a happy future with. Gillingham Box 462538 **1**

BETWEEN US Asian lady, 41, single, no ties, outgoing, fun-loving, professional, looking for white male, genuine, professional and solvent. Box 451900 **1**

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FOR A RELATIONSHIP? Shy but confident-once-known female, a mum, 40, likes socialising, tennis, walks, swimming; seeks gent with similar interests to find hopeful love with. Box 452106 **1**

TLC ON OFFER Bubbly, happy, outgoing 41yr old female, enjoy life to the full, like writing, walking, watching DVDs, with like-minded, happy-go-lucky, clean male for friendship and more. Box 459271 **1**

HAPPY TIMES ARE HERE TO STAY Single mum, 42, 5ft6, likes fun nights out, cinema, meals out, cuddles and kisses, looking for a fun-loving gentleman to share happy times with. Ashford. Box 459892 **1**

LOVE IS ALL AROUND Happy-go-lucky, bubbly blonde, 42, blue eyes, hard-working, love outings, looking for a nice, genuine guy for relationship. Bromley. Box 454517 **1**

HELLO EVERYONE! Single dog-owner, 42, fun-loving, kind and loyal, likes meals out, weekends away, country walks, WLTW a non-smoking guy to share it all with. Seaford. Box 454569 **1**

DOES THIS SOUND LIKE YOU? Single mum, 42, from Ashford, 5ft9, dark hair/eyes, like pubs, bars, days out and keeping fit, looking for a caring and fun-loving gent, 5ft9+. Box 461129 **1**

SHOW ME LOVE Active sporty female, 43, enjoys the usual things in life, looking for someone genuine and honest, initially for friendship but then who knows? Tunbridge Wells. Box 868335

TALL ORDER Curvy lady, 5ft9, 43yrs old, blonde hair/green eyes. I live in Deal in Kent, I'm down-to-earth and like being out and about. Box 456020 **1**

LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL Good-looking brunette female, 43, 5ft10, likes bowling, eating in/out etc. Looking for a good-looking guy, 35-45, with gosh for friendship/relationship. Box 450348 **1**

ACTIVE TYPE Lively, energetic fun loving mum, 42, 5ft3, petite, pretty, blonde/brown hair, hazel eyes, WLTW honest, fun, mixed race/black gent, for lasting relationship. Box 451819 **1**

ANOTHER CHAPTER Hard working PA, 43, single mum, grey-green-blue eyes, loves socialising and enjoying life, seeks loyal, honest male to find love with. Sittingbourne. Box 461037 **1**

SWEET AS HONEY Petite, slim, honey-blond lady, 5'4" age 44, enjoys the seaside and horse-racing. Looking for a dark-haired, genuine, honest and professional man, 25-50 in Brighton. Box 458465 **1**

HOW YOU DOING? Attractive, curvy single mum, 44, kind, genuine, loyal and loving, seeking a man with similar qualities to share my life with. St Leonards-on-Sea. Box 459129 **1**

ENJOY LIFE TO THE FULL Young-looking 46yr old female, 5ft4, slim, blonde, non-smoker, affectionate, loyal, caring, seeking a male, 40-45, up to 5ft7, to share life with. Ashford/Maidstone area please. Box 461936 **1**

A REAL DIAMOND African lady, 47, honest, loving and caring, enjoys most things in life, looking for a male, 50+, for a LTR. Canterbury Box 460999 **1**

HELP ME OPEN UP Easygoing lady, 46, dark brown hair/blue eyes, medium build, likes life, socialising, the seaside, walks, drinks, WLTW male to share a bottle of wine with. Box 444585 **1**

ETERNALLY YOURS Easygoing woman, likes most things in life; country walks, films, cinema, cooking. I'm 46, 5ft2, medium build. WLTW genuine, happy guy, easygoing and fun. Box 445635 **1**

ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME? Caring, cute female, 46, petite, likes socialising, dancing, travelling, good food, seeking intelligent, fun male 42-52 for love and TLC. Seaford. Box 444366 **1**

MAKE A DATE Friendly female, 48, blonde, blue eyes, medium build, likes most things, seeking a nice, genuine male 48-52. Canterbury. Box 460951 **1**

MAKE IT ENJOYABLE Pretty, young-looking, slender woman, 49, dark-haired seeks reliable gentleman, 25-49 for a loving relationship. Rochester. Box 460886 **1**

LIKE MINDS Single female, 49, enjoy a varied social life going out, terpin bowling, out for meals, cinema, travelling, looking to meet someone with similar interests. Eastbourne. Box 866286 **1**

BE MY FRIEND AND LOVER Bubbly, caring lady, 47, divorced with 2 teenagers, dark hair, medium build, into cooking, driving, love to talk, laugh and have fun, seeking a normal guy. Box 425952 **1**

CARING & PROFESSIONAL Female 49, 5ft4, long hair, slim build, likes eating out, the beach, travel, seeks a friendly chap, 48-55. Hastings Box 471100 **1**

LAUGHTER, THE BEST MEDICINE Help me write my stand-up comedy routine! I'm 49, you'll need to make me laugh out loud and understand observational comedy to make the grade. Box 892640 **1**

JUST IMAGINE Petite, brunette, bubbly, friendly, easygoing single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things, WLTW genuine male, to see where life takes us! Box 893562 **1**

FAMILY LIFE Warm hearted lady, 51, look younger! I'm 5ft6, slim build, with blonde hair, divorced (grown up children), WLTW nice man, 40s/50s in the Aylesford area. Box 461834 **1**

NOTHINGVENTURED... Hi there, I'm a Sussex based, 51yr old woman, I love eating out, historical sites etc. Looking for kind gent for friendship, evenings out, maybe more. Box 459181 **1**

MAKE A DATE Petite female, 52, blonde, blue eyes, seeks 46-61 year old single male for life. Interests include walking, photography and more. Brighton. Box 866322 **1**

YOU DON'T KNOW UNTIL YOU CALL... Young-looking, hard-working 53yr old living in East Sussex. I am a happy, caring person with a good sense of humour. Non-smoker. Heathfield. Box 883410 **1**

COMPANIONSHIP, LAUGHTER, HOPEFULLY MORE Curvy & cuddly, outgoing, friendly, honest female, 53, 5ft7, larger build, fair hair, likes socialising, country walks, theatre, cinema, music, swimming, WLTW similar loving male. Box 443642 **1**

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DO YOU HAVE THE BRAINS & THE LOOKS? Professional, attractive female, 54, enjoys the countryside, gardening, keeping fit, reading and live music, looking to meet an attractive and intelligent man for a relationship. Box 448863 **1**

ALWAYS LOOKING ON THE BRIGHT SIDE Intelligent woman of 56, gosh. Loves London, pub/cine/shows, cinema, walking, the sea, travel, seeking a Kentish male companion of similar age to share these. Maidstone. Box 460816 **1**

PERFECT MATCH Mature, attractive lady, fair hair, brown eyes, in good shape, loves travel, theatre, sport, music, seeking the company of a cultured, funny, adventurous male. Maidstone. Box 462273 **1**

ANIMAL LOVER Attractive lady, non-smoker, aged 57, GSOH. I enjoy eating in/out, seeing friends, theatre, animals, and WLTW similar, non-smoking male. Box 452498 **1**

I'VE GOT THE GOLDEN TICKET Christian female, 57, looking to meet a nice man with gosh to go to the cinema and have fun with. St Leonards-on-Sea. Box 449225 **1**

LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS! Smart petite lady, 55, 5ft4, tall, blonde hair, green eyes, likes restaurants, theatre, cinema, travel abroad; seeking happy guy with similar interests. Box 448795 **1**

DIVORCED Loving, kind, honest female, 58, 5ft6, interests include the countryside, old pubs, music, reading and baking. Looking for that special someone to enjoy life with. Box 878455 **1**

WALKS ALONG THE COAST Honest & sincere female, 58, tall, GSOH, loves country pubs, coasts, cinema, seeking a man who's a match for me with GSOH for relationship. Box 441622 **1**

BE YOURSELF Outgoing lady, active, 60, tolerant, open-minded, loves life animals, and genuine people, seeks a sincere man for romance. Margate. Box 865776 **1**

BRIGHTENING UP Cuddly female, 61, 5ft5, blonde, likes swimming, country pubs, cinema and much more. WLTW tallish single man to hopefully brighten each others lives. Box 870214 **1**

SIMPLE PLEASURES Hi there, I'm a 61yr old lady, blonde hair/green eyes, medium build. I love dancing, walking by the sea and WLTW like minded gent. Box 459487 **1**

LOVE ME DO Loving and caring lady, 63, 5ft3, brown hair/eyes, likes most things in life, looking for a caring and considerate male for friendship, hopefully a LTR. Margate. Box 460082 **1**

THE ONE AND ONLY Caring and honest female, 62, 5ft slim, attractive like mouton, 50s, 60s 70s music, adore animals with lots of love and affection to give. Tunbridge. Box 460279 **1**

QUALITY TIME Widow, early 60's, likes dancing, drinks, gardening, socialising, and walks works, seeking a good gent. Ramsgate. Box 460872 **1**

PUT SPARK INTO LIFE Caring slim female, 64, 5ft2, like meals out, cinema, walks, gardening and golf, looking for a kind and loving companion. 60-68. Box 450581 **1**

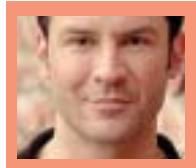
Women seeking women

TABLE FOR 2? Homely type woman, 50, looking for a similar female. I'm 5ft5, salt & pepper hair, I'm honest and trustworthy and looking for the same. Hastings. Box 455737 **1**

ATTRACTIVE, BUBBLY LADY 52yrs, 5ft6, blonde, size 12 enjoys good food/wine, theatre, countryside, holidays, seeking a sincere, genuine female, for friendship first, possibly relationship. Box 414143 **1**

VOLUPTUOUS LADY Curvy lady, 57, very loving and graceful, enjoy the beach, music, walking, theatre, and reading, looking for a lady 50-70. Box 458935 **1**

HOMELY SORT Hello there, I'm looking for a kind, gentle partner, a homely woman, with GSOH. I'm female, 56, and enjoy cinema, reading, antiques, gardening, music. Eastbourne. Box 451409 **1**



MEN seeking women

UNTAMED YOUTH Friendly male, 20"1", tan, likes fishing, cars, looking to meet women between the ages of 18 and 21. We are young let's enjoy it. Box 865449 **1**

SOMETHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY 28yr old guy, 6ft, dark hair, multi-coloured eyes, random shoi, likes music, spending time with friends, sport, seeking a quirky girl to share life with. Tonbridge. Box 456800 **1**

TWO HEARTS Easy-going male, 28, gosh, honest, caring, slim, dark hair, blue eyes, likes countryside, music, travel, seeking a woman for laughter, smiles, good time, 18-28. Hastings. Box 460821 **1**

MAKE IT LAST Slim, clean shaven guy, 29, love cars and bikes looking to share my heart with a curvy, natural, loving and caring woman for long-term companionship. Box 866405 **1**

ACTIVE LIFESTYLE Easygoing, honest guy, loyal and good natured. I'm 33, 6ft tall, athletic build. I enjoy cinema, ice-skating, the gym, travel. WLTW lady under 40. Box 459764 **1**

GIVE IT A WHIRL Single dad, 34, 6ft, stocky, gosh, seeking a fun and caring single lady for true romance. Maidstone. Box 462509 **1**

A GOOD LAUGH Single dad, 34, 6ft, brown hair, blue eyes, looking for a female to share days out, nights out and good times with. Maidstone. Box 462510 **1**

MUSIC TO MY EARS Hi there I'm 35, 6ft1, dark hair and blue eyes, loves music and playing guitar, seeks female who's passionate, tactile, to share friendship/relationship. Kent. Box 458115 **1**

BOTTLE OF WINE Hi there, I'm an easygoing male, 35, 5ft8, medium build, brown hair. I'm based in Kent. Eastbourne. Box 462004 **1**

AN ATTRACTIVE OFFER Handsome, tall male, 38, 6'4", looking for a young lady to slowly re-discover the finer things in life. Box 454805 **1**

LIFE IS FOR LIVING Divorced male, 40, 5'10", brown hair, blue eyes, likes live music, looking for a fun woman to enjoy life with, to go out for fun. Eastbourne. Box 462004 **1**

MARSHAL ME Chris, 39, 5ft7, stocky green-blue eyes, short hair, Virgo, GSOH, love swimming, walks on beaches, days out, seeking similar female, for loving times. Box 440167 **1**

HE'S MIGHTY FINE! Virgo male, 40, 5ft7, stocky build, kind, loving, fine guy, enjoys the cinema, meals out, walks on beaches, WLTW like-minded person to be my girl. Box 446212 **1**

MAKE YOUR MARK Hi I'm Mark, 40, 5ft8, brown hair and eyes, fit, not ugly, mature, honest, WLTW someone trustworthy and caring. Box 448372 **1**

STARTING ANEW Professional 42 year old, recently separated after a 23 year marriage. Likes the finer things in life. Looking for someone who wants a relationship. Kent area. Box 865841 **1**

THE FOOD OF LOVE? Modest male, 42, 6ft2 with dark hair, stocky, a chef and loving dad, loves cinema, dining out and cosy nights, seeks someone special and fun-loving. Box 450057 **1**

COSY NIGHTS Male, 45, divorced, 2 sons grown up. I'm of slim build, with brown hair/eyes, attractive. I like walks, socialising, meals out etc. Hastings. WLTW genuine lady. Box 458979 **1**

WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD Sincere guy, 45, 6ft, slim, likes clubs, pubs, bowling, cinema, meals out, looking for a slim female for a stable relationship. Gillingham Box 462529 **1**

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COSY AND QUIET Single male, 45, 5'9", slim, gosh, non-smoker, homely, likes the usual things, seeking a nice, non-smoking, quiet lady, 45-55. Eastbourne. Box 461818 **1**

GAME ON Male, 44, 6ft tall, fairly sporty, romantic nature, likes the countryside, coast, going out; seeks outgoing confident female for friendship/possible relationship. Medway/Kent. Box 870999 **1**

WITTY Active, adventurous, articulate male, 43, own home/car, enjoys shopping, good food, country walks, music, most things. seeks homely, warm, trusting female. Box 408508 **1**

GET HAPPY Easygoing guy with GSOH, 46, not bad looking, looking for someone to enjoy friendship, romance and make something more. Eastbourne. Box 461443 **1**

TAKE MY HAND Genuine, honest man, 47, likes dining out, walking, looking to share the good life with a woman, 35-50. Deal. Kent. Box 460441 **1**

SILVER FOX Seaford based guy, 47, 5ft8, single, no ties, silver hair/green eyes, attractive. What you see is what you get. I'm loyal, considerate and hard working. Box 457245 **1**

NEW BEGINNING Sincere genuine man, 47, 5ft9, cropped hair, blue eyes, clean shaven, divorced, looking to meet a nice woman to get to know/knowlate. Eastbourne. Box 449554 **1**

YOUNG AT HEART Sincere genuine man, 47, but looks younger, 5ft6, cropped hair, blue eyes, single, likes cycling nights in/out, seeks younger female for fun, friendship, ltr. Margate. Box 867708 **1**

THE START OF SOMETHING LASTING? Hi I'm 48, hard working, live Eastbourne, seeking female for friendship and companionship and seeing what might happen! Box 447893 **1**

GOING SWIMMING! Sincere, down-to-earth male, 47, 6ft, good-looking, athletic, own business, likes swimming, cinema, music, gigs, walking, seeking slim, laid-back lady, 28-45, for potential LTR. Box 440647 **1**

WHAT'S IMPORTANT Young 50, 6ft, slimish, builder, seeking a woman of similar age for a ltr to share life together. Tunbridge wells. Box 462418 **1**

OUT THERE 51yr old chap, I run my own business and enjoy meals in/out, seeing shows, walks and cuddles. WLTW lovely lady to spend time with. Kent. Box 461022 **1**

FANCY A DRINK? I love the beach, drinks out, wine/dining. I'm an easygoing gent, 51, slim/medium build, brown hair/eyes. Kent area. Box 461828 **1**

LOYAL AND HONOURABLE Teacher, 51, very fit and athletic, sporty, interested in music, love cooking, eating out, beach walks and more, seeks



PROPERTY NEWS

Bovis Homes sees an encouraging sales boost

BOVIS Homes achieved 1,488 private reservations in the year to November 13, an 83 per cent rise on the comparative figure for the same period in 2008.

The group also says it anticipates legally completing around 1,800 sales in 2009, of which 1,500 are expected to be private homes, compared with 1,223 a year earlier, and about 300 social homes, compared with 594.

In addition, private sales prices have seen "a modest improvement" since the end of June and Bovis expects to increase the value of its existing land bank, while continuing to proceed with land purchases.

Also Barratt Developments reported it is shying away from the apartment market to focus on building houses.

According to the firm, banks and building societies are wary of lending on apartments because of oversupply and pre-credit crisis mortgage scams that involved property valuations being deliberately inflated.

Want a quick deal? Click on to Chainfree.com

A NEW website dedicated to selling homes not caught up in a property chain has been launched in an attempt to help people buy and sell realistically priced homes more quickly and efficiently.

Chainfree.com is a one-stop shop which means purchasers no longer have to spend hours surfing the net, attending auctions and visiting countless estate agents.

Chainfree.com chief executive Paul Smith explained: "All the properties featured have been realistically valued, in most cases by two other independent valuers, to ensure they are at the right price.

Because they are chain free, the purchase is likely to go through quickly without any undue delays, taking the stress out of buying a property."

More than 5,500 properties from across the country ranging in price from just £10,000 to more than £500,000 are currently featured and more than 850 individual branches have loaded properties onto the site including Spicerhaart brands Haart, Spicer McColl, Darlows in Wales, Haybrook in South Yorkshire and Felicity J Lord in London.

Spicerhaart corporate sales managing director Mark Pilling said: "The new website gives a dedicated portal for estate agencies selling chain free properties which, by their very nature, means they sell quickly."



PLAN YOUR VOTE : Residential property developers are less likely to get their planning permission through if they are applying in a Conservative-controlled local authority

The politics behind getting your planning permission

■ BY NICK AMES

RESIDENTIAL property developers are less likely to get planning permission for developments in Tory-controlled local authorities, according to law firm McGrigors.

They say developers who want to increase their stock should act quickly if they are in a Labour or Liberal Democrat district, in case the Conservatives win the next round of local elections.

Research by the law firm shows that over the last year Tory councils approved an average of 63 per cent of planning applications for major housing developments compared to 69 per cent in local authorities not under Conservative control.

McGrigors said this was significant as Conservatives control is most heavily concentrated in the south east of England where housing shortages are the most acute.

The research also found that 60 per cent of Local Planning Authorities with the lowest percentage of planning permissions granted for major housing developments are run by the Conservatives.

McGrigors warned that if the Conservatives increased their 51 per cent control of UK councils at the next election then it could become harder for developers to obtain planning permission. This, it said, meant Britain could face the risk of more severe housing shortages in the long term. The firm advised developers to make planning applications before the May elections in order to maximise the chances of obtaining consent.

Suzanne Gill, partner at McGrigors, said: "A slow and expensive planning approval process has contributed to a lack of new housing and,

in part, to the boom and bust of property prices.

"Shortages of new homes are not restricted to metropolitan areas. In many rural areas people looking to buy for the first time are

being priced out of their local community because of the lack of new, affordable housing."

"Developers are wondering how a change in government will impact planning policy. There is a concern that a tightening of planning regulations will impact on their ability to deliver projects and make housing a less attractive part of the construction market."

£15,000 towards a new Millwood home

SINCE housebuilder Millwood Designer Homes launched the third phase of its development St Augustine's Park in the village of Westgate-on-Sea, it has received a large amount of interest.

And with another home just reserved, only six now remain with three, four and five-bedroom houses available.

As an early Christmas present, Millwood is offering the unique opportunity to receive a £15,000 discount voucher, which can be used when buying one of the fantastic designer homes that remain.

St Augustine's Park offers a mix of properties so it appeals to young couples and families alike. And with the new high-speed rail link in nearby Birchington-on-Sea, which commences in December and takes you to St Pancras in under one-and-a-half hours, it is now also very convenient for commuters too.

Richard Elliott, Sales Manager for Millwood Designer Homes said: "Westgate-on-Sea is a wonderful village that has evolved over the years, offering a variety of shops and conveniences, as well as a good selection of restaurants, cafes, bars and pubs. It is a great place for families as there



are several reputable schools in the area, including King Ethelbert's School which is less than a mile from the development. However, as only a few homes now remain, I would urge people to come and visit this stunning development as it really is an opportunity not to be missed."

Westgate-on-Sea train station provides regular links to London Victoria in approximately one hour and 45 minutes.

Prices at St Augustine's Park start from £229,950 for a three-bedroom home, £239,950 for a four-bed and £245,000 for a five-bed.

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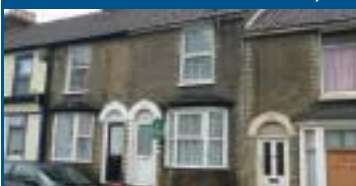


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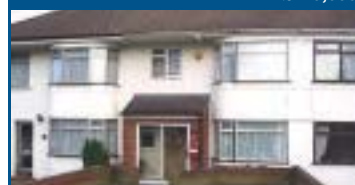
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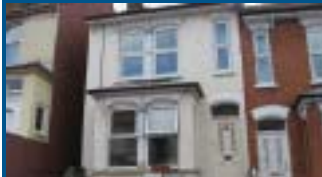
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4 Theodore Place, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 1AX. MANN COUNTRYWIDE are now in receipt of an offer for the sum of £86,000 for 4 Theodore Place, Gillingham, Kent, ME7. Anyone wishing to submit an offer for this property should contact: Mann Countrywide, 88 High Street, Gillingham, Kent ME7 1AX Tel: 01634 851 008 within 7 days of the date of this publication.

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- 2 bathrooms, second kitchen

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Hoo Price | Range: £300,000-£340,000

- Four Double Bed Chalet Bungalow
- Larger Corner Plot Two Reception Rooms
- Utility Area, Conservatory Double Garage

STROOD OFFICE | 01634-716597



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*Or is withdrawn from the market or 9 months after instruction, whichever is sooner.



Rainham | £240,000

- Two bedroom semi detached bungalow
- Kitchen with integrated appliances
- Corner plot, NO FORWARD CHAIN!

RAINHAM OFFICE | 01634 373531



Gillingham | Price Range: £170,000 to £190,000

- 4/5 Bedrooms, 28ft Lounge/Diner
- 18ft Modern Fitted Kitchen, Cellar/Bar
- Modern Bathroom & Double Glazing

LOWER GILLINGHAM OFFICE | 01634 851191



Rochester | Price Range: £165,000-£185,000

- Three bedroom house with character
- Accommodation over three levels
- En-suite and family bathroom

ROCHESTER OFFICE | 01634 830925



Upper Gillingham | Price Range £160,000-£180,000

- Three bedroom end of terraced
- Integral garage, off road parking
- Lounge/diner, conservatory and garden

UPPER GILLINGHAM OFFICE | 01634 281155



Walderslade | Price Range £110,000-£120,000

- 1 bedroom retirement flat for over 60's
- Ground floor with private entrance
- Communal facilities and lift service

WALDESLADE OFFICE | 01634 865661



Chatham: 01634 841243

Rainham: 01634 373531

Upper Gillingham: 01634 281155

Rochester: 01634 830925

Lower Gillingham: 01634 851191

Strood: 01634 716597

Walderslade: 01634 865661

MOTORS NEWS



Five-star Astra given lift with safety ratings

VAUXHALL'S eagerly-awaited all-new British-built Astra has received a major lift ahead of its showroom debut on 11 December.

The sixth generation of the family hatchback secured a maximum five-stars in the newly-upweighted Euro NCAP safety test. The Astra result included the most points ever awarded in the category for the new car's active head restraints, which protect against whiplash – the most common occupant injury suffered when a car is struck from behind.



Blue and white legend of Gordini makes return

RENAULT has preferred the 'Williams' and 'Renaultsport' labels to glamorise performance models yet ignored a motorsport name from the past – Gordini.

Amédée 'The Sorcerer' Gordini developed his own racing stable and Grand Prix cars before being hired by Renault in the mid-1950s and lending his name to many road and racing classics before the branding disappeared around 1980.

The name plus its famous blue and twin white stripe racing livery will be revived next year though by Twingo (pictured) and Clio Gordinis next year.



Nissan shows that cool car is hip to be square

NISSAN is hyping interest in its new Cube in the hope it can become a cult car like the Fiat 500 and BMW Mini.

It already enjoys that status in its native Japan and UK customers can judge whether a car can be cool as well as square when it arrives here in January.

It defies categorisation, but is closest to being an MPV with a huge cabin allowed by a long wheelbase that has moved the wheels to the extremities of the cubic design.



THE WAY AHEAD?: Although not a stunning car to drive, Honda's petrol-hybrid the Insight is cheaper than its arch-rival the Toyota Prius and should average well over 60mpg

Honda gives an insight into future of motoring

ROAD TEST HONDA INSIGHT

BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

financially against the above rivals. It also undercuts its Prius arch-rival (from £18,590), though you still pay £35/road tax as CO2 emissions are not low enough to reach the free zone.

Expect it to be bulletproof too, with Honda stating the batteries will outlast the car itself.

A genuine five-seat cabin with flat rear floor means the centre back passenger does not feel cramped and a 408-litre boot also beats most rival family hatchbacks, but falls short of the slightly longer Prius (446).

It is not a stunning car to drive though and gearchanging is managed by a smooth continuously variable (CVT) gearbox, but we are entering an era of lower emissions and energy-saving tyres. At least you get an eye-catching dash, with aids to extract the best environmentally and financially from a new 87bhp 1.3-litre engine and 12bhp electric motor combining to offer 0-62mph in a respectable 12.5 seconds.

The latter looks pathetic on paper, but electric motors offer lots of grunt versus weight and virtually instantaneous power, not that the Insight encourages racy driving; whether you press the 'Econ' button for ultra-green mode or not you soon learn to use the throttle sensitively for a green glow of eco success.



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BY STEVE LOADER @
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09 09 MAZDA 3 TAKARA 1-6 AUTO PAS ALLOYS 5DR SILVER 7000 MILES.....	£12495
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09 09 CHEVROLET LACETTI EST 1-8 SX SW AUTO PAS 5 DR SILVER 3000M.....	£7995
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08 58 NEW CORSA 1-2 CLUB AUTO PAS AIRC/ 5DR ICE BLUE 4000 MILES.....	£8995
08 58 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIRC/ ESTATE SILVER 7000 MILES.....	£8995
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08 58 NISSAN NOTE TEKNA 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR CAFFEE 2000 MILES.....	£9995
08 58 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR SILVER 1800 MILES.....	£8995
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08 57 MEGANE PRIVILEGE 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS FLAME 6000 MILES.....	£13495
07 57 MICRA 1-6 CONVERTIBLE CC SPORT AUTO PAS INFERNO 7000 MILES.....	£10995
07 57 MEGANE PRIVILEGE 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 5000 MILES.....	£13495
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07 57 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC 5DR AUTO PAS AIRC/ALLOYS GREEN 5000 MILES.....	£8995
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06 56 FOCUS 2-0 GHIA ESTATE CAR AUTO PAS TONIC BLUE 23000 MILES.....	£8995
06 56 FORD FOCUS GHIA AUTO PAS 5DR AIRC/ SEA GREY 13000 MILES.....	£7995
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06 56 COROLLA 1-6 T3 5 DR AUTO PAS AIRC/ MET SILVER 15000 MILES.....	£9995
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02 02 TOYOTA YARIS VERSO 1-3 GLS AUTO PAS SILVER 22000 MILES.....	£5995
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06 06 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO 5DR ESTATE PAS AIR ULTRA BLUE 20000 MILES.....	£6495
06 06 ASTRA 1-8 CLUB AUTO 5DR ESTATE PAS AIR BLACK 12000 MILES.....	£6495
06 06 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS 5 DR AIRC/ METRO BLUE 17000 MILES.....	£6495
06 06 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS 5 DR AIRC/ SILVER LIGHTNING 8000 MILES.....	£6495
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06 56 MERIVA 1-6 LIFE AUTO PAS AIRC/ 5DR STAR SILVER 3000 MILES.....	£7995
06 56 MERIVA 1-6 LIFE AUTO PAS AIRC/ 5DR SILVER LIGHTNING 5000 MILES.....	£7995
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06 56 SCENIC PRIVILEGE 2-0 AUTO PAS AIRC/ CHAMPAGNE 28000MILES.....	£8495
06 56 SCENIC DYNAMIC 16 AUTO PAS 5 DR AIRC/ BLUE 22000 MILES.....	£7995
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TELEPHONE US ON: 01303 817040

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- CUSTOMER SERVICE, CALL CENTRE
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Senior & General Appointments 33-35

Is this the job for you?

ACH is a fast-growing organisation, developing new, high-quality residential homes for adults with Learning Disabilities. Due to our continued growth we now require the following staff to complement our team at our homes in

STROOD & GILLINGHAM

www.achuk.com

SUPPORT WORKERS (Strood) Salary £13,250

NIGHT SUPPORT WORKERS (Gillingham) Salary £13,250 35 hours per week

For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com

Alternatively e-mail laura.bell@achuk.com or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8841.



We are a care home for adults with a learning disability and require

Waking Night Carer

To cover waking night shifts from 10pm-8am Mon, Fri and Sat nights.

Full training will be given. Own transport essential due to location. Any job offer is subject to full CRB check. Please contact The Grange on 01580 240118 to arrange an informal interview

To advertise in this section

01303 817040

Community Liaison Officer

Grade: C2 – Salary: £19,621 - £26,276

Hours: 37 hours per week – 52 weeks a year (variable in accordance with the needs of the Children's Centre)

Location: Miers Court Primary School
Silverspot Close Rainham Gillingham Kent ME8 8JR
Tel: 01634 388943 or e-mail: office@mierscourt.medway.sch.uk



Would you like to be part of the exciting new Children's Centre at Miers Court Primary School?

We are seeking to recruit a Community Liaison Officer to join our enthusiastic team as we prepare to open our brand new children's centre. Someone who welcomes new challenges, has an excellent sense of humour and is willing to lead a team offering new projects for local families with young children and working in partnership with a range of local agencies.

Applicants should have:

- education to degree level or relevant experience
- the skills to involve families with young children within a diverse community and become active in the community.
- a good knowledge of the local community.
- excellent communication and leadership skills.
- the ability to maintain systems and a wide range of records and written reports.
- the aspiration for excellence in services for children and families
- a commitment to equal opportunities in service delivery and employment.
- an enthusiasm to develop good working relationships with a wide range of partners, agencies and individuals.
- a desire to keep abreast of current developments, research and best practice, and to review, evaluate and implement change accordingly.

Informal visits to the school are most welcome.

Offer of appointment is subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

To find out more about this exciting role or to arrange a visit please contact: Mrs Sue McCracken, Headteacher, on Tel: 01634 388943 or email patts004@medway.org.uk
Closing Date: 15th December 2009

CHIPSTEAD LAKE - RESOURCE CENTRE

RESOURCE CENTRE TEAM LEADER



To cover maternity leave- February to October 2010
£17,745 per annum + £487 NVQ allowance

This is an exciting opportunity to lead a growing and successful resource centre for disabled people. You will have a minimum of 1 year's experience working with physically disabled people and a NVQ level 2/3. You will be leading a small team and co-ordinate the provision of activities so you must be an excellent communicator and organiser.

This would be a great opportunity for someone who wishes to gain management experience.

Contact us during office hours on 01732 459510 (Sevenoaks) - 24 hr recruitment line 01732 464336.
Transport is an advantage due to location.

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Colyer Road, Northfleet
Gravesend, Kent DA11 8BG
Head: Jane Partridge

GRADUATE TEACHER PROGRAMME

In collaboration with Canterbury Christ Church University College, we wish to offer the following:

Trainee placement on the following Graduate Teacher Programmes from Sept 2010

Science English Music Maths Design Technology

The successful candidate will receive training from experienced teachers at Northfleet Technology College supplemented by a number of days provided by Canterbury University.

The successful person must have at least 50% of their degree in their chosen subject. They need to be organised, self motivated and able to work independently. Salary will be £15,461

This very popular school of 900 boys, awarded specialist status in September 2003, is situated in the 'Thames Gateway' area of Kent, with excellent links to nearby London and the Channel coast. NTC is an exciting environment to work in, which is committed to the principle of lifelong learning for students and staff. There is a well established ethos of professional development for all our employees.

We are looking for enthusiastic, hardworking individuals to join our team and if you enjoy working with young people, relish a challenge and feel you have the necessary skills for this post we would like to hear from you.

Please contact Mrs Gill Taylor, our Initial Teacher Coordinator, for an informal chat about this opportunity and for further details.

An application form can be obtained from the school by telephone 01474 533802, fax 01474 536122 or by email taylorg@ntc.kent.sch.uk. Please enclose/attach your CV. Do check our web site: www.ntc.kent.sch.uk.
Closing Date is Friday Dec 11th 2009



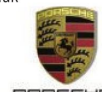
Porsche Centre Tonbridge

Receptionist - Saturday 8-5pm
Competitive Salary and benefits

We are currently looking for an enthusiastic and confident individual to work on our reception desk. As the first point of contact you will need to have an excellent telephone manner, be of smart appearance and enjoy meeting and greeting customers and making them feel welcome. Previous experience in a similar role would be an advantage but it is not essential as training will be provided.

To apply for this position, please send your CV to

Sharon Mallin, Porsche Centre Tonbridge,
Brook farm, Five Oak green Road, Tonbridge,
Kent TN11 0QN or email
sharon.mallin@porschetonbridge.co.uk



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Mon-Fri

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Phone 01622 882492.

Cognitive Behavioural Therapist - Step 3 High Intensity

£29,789 – £39,273 AGENDA FOR CHANGE BAND 7
 ESSENTIAL CAR USER ALLOWANCE OF UP TO £1,170 PER ANNUM
 BASED IN THANET • 37 HOURS PER WEEK

KCA provides a wide range of high quality, innovative primary care mental health services. You will join our Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) service within KCA's Psychological Therapy Providers (PTP) team. You will provide high intensity CBT interventions for a range of common mental health problems. You will also provide an advisory service to IAPT colleagues on matters related to practice and delivery of CBT to individuals accessing the service in line with IAPT guidelines and best practice. The role may include group work, if the post holder is qualified and competent. We provide a strong departmental framework with regular clinical supervision, line management, monthly team meetings and effective administration.

A Diploma in Cognitive Behavioural Therapy is essential, and you must be accredited or working towards accreditation with the BABCP. To discuss this role informally please contact the Service Manager, Lynda Burr on 01843 593832 (Monday, Wednesday or Friday).

An application form and job description can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk or call 01795 590635. Please quote ref: 622.

Closing date: 18 December 2009.

Interview date: TBA. Interviews will take place in Ramsgate.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all. Charity no: 292824.

www.kca.org.uk



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CITY VIEW PRE-SCHOOL & NURSERIES LTD

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MATERNITY COVER ASSISTANTS

required for extended hours, term time only Pre-school in
 Canterbury. To commence employment from January 2010.
 Possible long term contract available.

Pre-school experience essential.
 Enhanced CRB check will be sought for successful candidate.

Application packs will be sent to those leaving a name/address clearly
 on 01227 784694 or please email mrsdawn.williams@virgin.net.

Closing date - 8th December 2009



SUTTON VALENCE SCHOOL
 North Street, Sutton Valence,
 Maidstone, Kent ME17 3HL
www.svs.org.uk

**DOMESTIC CLEANER**

Required to work Monday to Friday for 35 hours per week,
 with 4 weeks paid holiday plus bank holidays. Previous
 cleaning experience desirable. Further details may be
 requested from Stuart Harris, Estates Bursar:
 telephone 01622 845254 or email: harrisst@svs.org.uk

Closing date for applications: **7th December, 2009**

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 Functional Skills

0.5fte, 18.5 hrs
 £11,880 - £16,333 pa
 Tonbridge

Joining us at an exciting stage in our development, you will be part of a team that has already built considerable expertise in the delivery of functional skills. This is your opportunity to influence the future direction of this vocationally-oriented department, as we work to fully integrate mathematical and numeracy skills across the College's curricula.

Proven experience of teaching Numeracy and GCSE Maths to young adults is essential, combined with the ability to teach learners at all levels. A Level 4/5 specialist qualification in Adult Numeracy would be ideal.

This College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all our users and expects all staff to share this commitment, in order for all to achieve their full potential. The successful applicant will be required to undertake a Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) check and to provide proof of your right to work in the UK.

To find out more, view our full list of opportunities and apply online, visit www.wkc.ac.uk Alternatively call 01732 376511 or email hr-dept@wkc.ac.uk Please quote ref: KOS14

Closing date: 12noon on 10th December 2009

west kent
college



To advertise in this section



01303 817040

TURNER CONTEMPORARY Margate opens 2011

Communications and Relationship Manager circa £34k

Curator circa £25k

Curator of Public Programmes circa £25k

Development Manager circa £36k

Finance Manager circa £34k

Learning Officer circa £25k

Turner Contemporary is seeking ambitious, creative and highly motivated individuals to join the team in all areas of our work. Designed by David Chipperfield Architects, the Gallery will open in spring 2011.

You will be joining us at a key stage in Turner Contemporary's development and will play a major role in developing and realising the gallery's programmes, profile and operating systems as we prepare to welcome our visitors.

To find out more about Turner Contemporary and to apply for any of the above roles, go to: www.turnercontemporary.org

Closing date for applications: **Wed 16 December 2009**
 Interviews will take place week commencing **4 & 11 January 2010**



Care Home in Darenth, Nr Dartford Require

I Night Care Assistant

To work various night duties, mainly weekend

I Part Time Care Assistant

To work 7am-2pm, mainly weekends

Experience is an advantage but not necessary as full training will be provided. Due to location you will need your own transport

Please contact Margaret or Debbie 01322 224423

To advertise in this section



01303 817040



MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Programme Area Leader in Childcare/Health and Social Care Ref: PAL06

Salary: £30,204 - £32,865 per annum

Programme Area Leader in Engineering Ref: P0219

Salary: £30,204 - £32,865 per annum

ESOL Programme Area Leader Ref: P0153

Salary: £30,204 - £32,865 per annum

Programme Area Leader in Art and Design Ref: P0383

Maternity Cover

Salary: £30,204 - £32,865 - per annum

We are looking to recruit exceptional candidates for the above roles to provide support to the Head of Faculty on all Staffing, Student, Curriculum and Quality issues. The successful candidates will be able to demonstrate a significant level of competence in Teaching and Learning, and have good negotiating/communication skills. The post holders will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Lecturer in Engineering/Civil Engineering Ref: P0678

Salary: £22,653 - £27,476 per annum

We are looking to recruit an outstanding individual to teach and participate in the development of programmes across the Faculty which includes Electronic, Electrical, Mechanical Engineering and Civil Engineering disciplines. The successful candidate will possess qualities of reliability, have good communication skills and hold an HNC/HND/Foundation degree or higher in one or more of the above Engineering specialism's. Previous industry experience is essential. The ideal candidate will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Closing Date: Wednesday 16 December 2009

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer

Instructor in Catering Ref: P0384

37 hours per week, 40 weeks per year

Salary: £16,749- £19,127 pro rata

We are looking for a passionate candidate to be involved in the Instruction and Assessment of a range of Catering and Hospitality programmes. The successful candidate will have proven knowledge and recent experience within the industry and hold the A1 and V1 award or be willing to work towards it.

Quality Administrator Ref: P0383

26 hours per week, 38 weeks per year

Salary: £15,607 - £17,750 pro rata

We are looking for a confident individual to provide administrative support to the Head of the Quality Department. The successful candidate will have the ability to work independently and to deadlines as well as excellent communication and IT skills.

Customer Service Advisor Ref: P0375

Salary: £15,225 - £17,402 per annum

We are looking for an exceptional individual to provide a comprehensive and efficient front-line service to the College students, staff and visitors. The successful candidate will be responsible for supporting the smooth running of the College reception. The ideal candidate will have excellent communication skills.

KSRC Technician Ref: P0647

15 hours per week

Salary: £18,433 - £22,367 pro rata

We are looking to recruit a science Technician to support the delivery of teaching and training at the Kent Science Resource Centre. The ideal candidate will have good interpersonal skills and a recognised qualification in a related science subject. Proven knowledge of a Biology or Chemistry laboratory environment is essential.

Painter/Decorator Ref: P0335

Salary: £18,433 - £20,974 per annum

Night shifts

We are looking for a hardworking individual to maintain the good decorative order of the College. The successful candidate will hold a recognised qualification in painting and decorating and experience within the industry would be advantageous. The ability to self motivate and self manage is essential due to the working pattern.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

KOS MEDIA (PUBLISHING) LTD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Advertisements will be accepted only on the express condition that the advertiser warrants that the advertisement does not in any way contravene any existing legislation and in particular the Trade and Description Act 1968 and the Consumer Credit Act 1974.
- It is the responsibility of all advertisers to ensure that all advertising meets all forms of government legislation and KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (the "media owner") takes no responsibility for liability in errors and omissions to the content of our media.
- All rates quoted are subject to VAT at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.
- All rates within the annual advertising agreement will be rate protected for 12 months from the first date of publication under the signed agreement.
- Any unsuitable material posted on any website belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the advertiser or any associated third party will be removed or refused. All passwords and security supplied to the advertiser by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in relation to the use of the posting of material via the media owner's online administration tool will be the responsibility of the advertiser. The advertiser indemnifies KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd against any damages as a result of misuse of these privileges by either the advertiser or any third party given password privileges by the advertiser.
- KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to change passwords intermittently to ensure the overall and ongoing security of its websites within the public domain.
- Copyright and licenses for voice-over/music/photography or film for advertising promotions or otherwise within the various forms of media in print, online and moving film owned by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must have been sought, verified or paid for by the advertiser where applicable. Approval or permissions must have been given by any potential beneficial owner voice-over or music. The advertiser must be able to verify any statements or claims (promotional or otherwise) in relation to their products/services promoted within any of the media offerings belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd.
- Where shrinkage of an advertisement occurs for whatever reason, the advertisement will be charged to the nearest full centimetre where it relates to the media owner's printed publications. This will NOT apply to full-page advertisements, which remain full pages even after shrinkage.
- KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to omit or refuse any advertisement/commercial/web content without notice or explanation. In these terms the word "advertiser" shall be construed to include any person or organisation placing an advertisement on behalf of another.
- A guarantee of insertion cannot be given and the media owners shall not be liable for any loss or damage caused by any error or inaccuracy within their marketing content. In no case shall the total liability of the media owner for any error or omission exceed the price charged by the media owners for that advertising.
- No liability is accepted for any loss or damage alleged to have arisen through delay in forwarding replies to Box numbers, however caused, nor for the loss or damage to any artwork supplied.
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- Advertisers are requested to check their advertisements after the first insertion. The media owner will not be responsible for any errors on subsequent insertions, which have not been advised to them in writing.
- A minimum of one month's notice must be given in writing for any cancellation of the signed annual advertiser's agreement. Upon cancellation, all discounts from KOS Media's standard effective media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009) will be recalculated and adjusted accordingly in line with KOS Media's standard media rate card (effective July 2008-June 2009) and will reflect the revised length of commitment denoted by the advertiser's written cancellation. Any surcharges, refunds or costs in relation to the production of the advertiser's TV commercial for the commitment set out within the advertiser's agreement will be met in full by the advertiser as per KOS Media's standard media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009). Discounts will be reapplied and any refunds or surcharges will be paid by either party within 30 days of the advertiser's written cancellation. Any other advertising placed must give a minimum of seven days' written notice and any discounts given for series bookings will be forfeited by the advertiser upon cancellation.
- Seasonal contracts, Your Professional classified advertisements or any uplift advertising within the annual contract with the advertiser will be invoiced in full - at rate card - on receipt of any written cancellation of this contract within the 12-months.
- All uplift advertisements must be booked in at least three months in advance of publication and will be subject to availability. All dates booked will be on a first-come, first-served basis.
- The advertiser must agree to the date and time of filming of any online TV advertising commercial supplied by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Should the advertiser's agreement, Platinum, Gold, Silver standard of commercial). Should, for any reason, the advertiser not be available at the agreed time without giving sufficient notice (at least 48 hours), KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to charge for any further TV production at its standard published hourly rate should the advertiser still wish to use KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's production services to complete its TV commercial or photographic imagery included in the advertiser's agreement. The advertiser will approve and accept that there are only two choices of voice-over and music offered by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Should an advertiser wish to use other voice-overs or non-copyright free music, it is the responsibility of the advertiser to pay the PRS rights should they be required to do so. Any changes to or failure to approve the TV production by the deadlines agreed between both parties will result in KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd being given permission by the advertiser to replace the TV commercial with pictures or stills from a choice of photography supplied by the media owner until the advertiser can supply a TV commercial produced at their own cost and risk outside of this agreement. The advertiser also accepts and agrees that this action would not reduce the value or cost of their membership. Any cost of changes required to the TV commercial throughout the advertiser's agreement will be borne by the advertiser outside of this agreement.
- Each advertiser accepts that their ranking and position within KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's search engine will be equal to those within their category (Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze, etc) other than they will be ranked based on the search engine criteria of optimisation within their level (Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze).
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c. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the due date, the media owner reserves the right to charge interest on all overdue balances calculated on a daily basis at the rate of two per cent above the minimum lending rate of National Westminster Bank Plc from time to time in force.
d. Notwithstanding anything in these terms and conditions or implied to the contrary, in the event of the Advertiser ceasing to use the services of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (for whatever reason), the whole amount of monies due from the Advertiser to the date of cessation shall fall due for immediate payment.
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f. Payment may be made by cheque, credit transfer, direct debit, cash and any major credit card.
- Any discount which KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd may have agreed with the Advertiser shall be forfeited in the event of failure by the Advertiser to complete the contract or to meet the above credit terms.
- Advertising Agency commission will be allowed to those advertisers recognised by the Newspaper Society, but shall not exceed ten per cent and will be subject to the terms of that recognition. This commission will not be allowed if the Advertising Agency fails to meet the terms.
- All private advertisements and certain categories as laid down by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be prepaid.
- The Advertiser agrees to indemnify KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the media owners or any of the companies within the KOS Media Group as the result of legal action or threatened legal action or threatened legal arising from the publication of any advertisement or advertising promotion.
- An order for an advertisement shall amount to acceptance of these terms and conditions, and any condition placed on an order by an Advertiser shall be null and void in so far as it conflicts with them.
- Copyright in advertisements produced wholly or partially by the media owners belong to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the media owner's written consent.

All terms and conditions stated above are in place to protect the advertiser, the media owner and the communities they serve within the public domain as well as the beneficial rights of individuals and organisations. KOS Media will endeavour to always act reasonably in applying its terms and conditions.

Effective from June 2008

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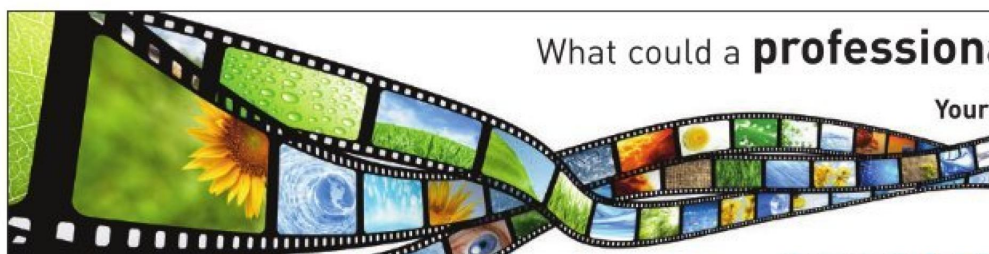
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Picture: GOR KUNCO



DOUBLE: Elliot Andrews scored twice in Sunday's victory

Redskins' brave but Mos scalp them once again

INVICTA Dynamos warmed up for this weekend's top of the table clash against Chelmsford Chieftains with a hard-earned victory against Streatham Redskins on Sunday.

It was the fourth time the sides had met this season and although the margin of victory was not as emphatic as the Mos' previous three, they had more than enough to see off their rivals.

After three weeks without a game at the Gillingham Ice Bowl, Kevin Parrish handed a home debut to Nolan Boike.

It took just six minutes for the National League South leaders to open the scoring,

ICE HOCKEY

Invicta Dynamos 4 Streatham Redskins 0

Nicky Lewis firing past netminder Will Sanderson.

The Mos had racked up 29 goals against the Redskins this season, but it took them until the second period to extend their lead.

Boike doubled the advantage with a neat finish and Elliot Andrews added to his all-

time points scoring record with the club to make it 3-0 going into the final period.

Sanderson did well to keep out the Mos until Andrews added his second and the hosts' fourth to complete the scoring.

It may not have contained the fireworks the home fans were looking for, but it was a significant weekend for the standings. Invicta's 15th win from 16 games extended their lead to four points after the Chieftains could only draw 4-4 at Oxford.

Next up is the eagerly awaited double-header with title challengers Chelmsford, which begins this Sunday with a trip to Essex.

RUGBY

Impressive home record remains as Medway fall short



Picture: ALAN BOURNE

ASSISTING: Rob Ellis laid on Medway's only try

Heathfield & Waldron 17 Medway 5

MEDWAY'S good form against London 3 South East's title hopefuls came to an end on Saturday as they paid for a poor first-half against Heathfield & Waldron.

After wins against Charlton Park and East Grinstead, Taff Gwilliam's side were looking to complete the hat-trick against the third side in the division's top three.

Their Sussex hosts were in no mood for letting their 100 per cent record go easily and they blitzed Medway in what proved to be the decisive period of the game.

A missed tackle and lapse in concentration at a penalty were ruthlessly punished with two tries, giving Heathfield a 12-0 lead inside the first ten minutes.

A third try midway through the half made it 17-0, which remained the score at the break.

Medway came back into the game in the second-half, exerting sustained pressure for the first time.

Heathfield defended superbly to keep the visitors out until ten minutes from time, when 18-year-old replacement Matt Wadhams dived over following good work from Rob Ellis and Darren Kistner.

It failed to spark a comeback though as the home side closed the game out to preserve their flawless league record.

Medway host Crowborough this Saturday.

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Picture: ADRIAN LINE

WINNING WAYS: Chatham Town arrested their losing run with a much-needed victory at Met Police, thanks in part to a goal from midfielder Matt Solly (left)

Chats win comes in nick of time away at Met Police

CHATHAM Town ended a poor run with a deserved victory at Met Police on Saturday in a game which saw both sides play with ten men for nearly an hour.

Early strikes from Brendon Cass and Matt Solly put the visitors in charge, before Ben Payne and Gary Drewett were sent off following an altercation before half-time. Steffan Gaisie made it 3-0 to make the points safe despite the home side pulling a goal back shortly afterwards.

Manager Alex O'Brien admitted it was a relief to bounce back following four defeats in quick succession.

He said: "It was only a bad week, but all of a sudden a run like that can get into players' heads. Winning becomes a habit, but so does losing, so it was a big game. It was vitally important we put last week behind us and that's what we did."

The Chats did not look like a team struggling for confidence as they raced into a 2-0 lead.

Cass, who has been guilty of some wasteful finishing during the losing run, fired home from an acute angle on 17 minutes. The advan-

FOOTBALL

BY DAVID PRITCHARD

Metropolitan Police 1

Brown 70

Chatham Town 3

Cass 17, Solly 20, Gaisie 68

tage was quickly doubled as Solly curled a free-kick low into the corner.

Met Police's best chance before half-time was a Greenway header which hit the crossbar. Both sides were then reduced to 10 men after Payne and Drewett were sent off for violent conduct.

The Chats sacrificed Lee Barnett at half-time to protect their lead and it worked as the home side were stifled. A rare counter-attack brought success for the visitors, with Gaisie scoring from close range to make it 3-0. Craig Brown reduced the deficit, but the Chats defence held firm to hang on to all three points.

O'Brien was delighted with the display, but

Chatham Town starting XI



Subs used: Green (Barnett 45), Ascheri (Gaisie 82)

singled out Cass for particular praise.

He said: "I'm happy for Brendon because he worked so hard. The last couple of weeks have been tough on him. He never was a grafter at Dartford because he always had players around him who could give him the service he needs."

"It's not the same at Chatham so he's had to work hard and brought more to his game."

The Chats are back in action on Saturday when they entertain Ryman Division One South leaders Worthing at Maidstone Road. Kick-off is at 3pm.

Stimson pleased with win and third round opponents

FOOTBALL

BY DAVID PRITCHARD

Gillingham 1

Weston 69

Burton Albion 0

MARK Stimson has an eye on reaching the FA Cup fourth round for the first time as a manager after his Gillingham side were handed a winnable tie in Sunday's draw.

The Gills face a trip to Accrington Stanley or Barnet in the New Year after despatching another League Two side, Burton Albion, on Saturday. Stimson was hoping for the kind of glamour tie which brought Aston Villa to Priestfield last season, but believes the Gills have a good opportunity whoever comes through next week's replay.

He said: "It would've been great to get a big side for financial reasons, but if you can't do that then you want a tie where you have a chance of progressing and I think we've got that."

"I'm sure Accrington and Barnet were hoping for Man United as well, but who knows, maybe we could get them in the next round."

Saturday's second round tie was a difficult hurdle to overcome against a Burton side that



RUGGED: Febian Brandy tries to wriggle free of a challenge

defended in numbers in the hope of a replay.

Their game plan was almost undone in the first ten minutes, when the Gills created several good opportunities.

Febian Brandy shot wide before Simeon Jackson and Stuart Lewis were denied in quick succession by goalkeeper Shane Redmond.

The Brewers weathered the storm, but offered little going forward and irked the home crowd with several crude challenges before half-time. It knocked the Gills out of their rhythm and with the clock ticking down, the game looked to be heading for a replay.

Gillingham starting XI



Subs used: Nutter (Palmer 68), Oli (Lewis 68), McCammon (Brandy 88)

It prompted Stimson into a double change, bringing on Dennis Oli and John Nutter on to freshen the game up. Within seconds Gillingham were ahead as Andy Barcham's persistence helped win the ball, before finding its way to Weston via Brandy. The midfielder kept his composure to stroke the ball home.

Burton threw everything forward in search of an equaliser late on, but Gillingham's defence held out well for their fourth successive clean sheet at home.

Progression netted the club £27,000 in prize money, which the Gills boss hopes could be used to strengthen the squad when the transfer window re-opens next month.

He said: "It all mounts up. When you come to January there might be a need to improve the group in certain positions and this can only help that."

The Gills were in action at Leyton Orient last night, log on to www.yourmedway.co.uk for the report and reaction. Carlisle United visit Priestfield this Saturday.



TEAM TALK

with Gills skipper
BARRY FULLER

'Draw gives us a huge chance to progress'

LIKE a lot of fans I was crowded round the television watching Sunday's FA Cup draw hoping we'd get a big Premier League club.

When it got down to the last four balls and both us and Man United were still in it, you start to get excited. Obviously a trip to Accrington Stanley or Barnet isn't what we were looking for, but the boys feel we have a great opportunity to progress to the fourth round if we can perform.

Saturday's game was exactly what I was expecting, with Burton giving everything and making it difficult for us to play.

They got men behind the ball and we just had to be patient and keep believing we'd make the breakthrough.

Just like the win against Yeovil last week, we started really well and I think if we'd got an early goal it would have been an easier game, but credit to Burton for digging in.

I was on the end of a couple of late challenges in the first-half but I don't think there was anything malicious about them.

The first challenge might have fractured my cheekbone, but I saw the physio on Monday once the swelling started to go down and it doesn't look like I need an x-ray.

Curtis [Weston] popped up with an important goal again. I think it sums up what he's been doing all season and he's doing what the manager wanted him to do more last season. Having a regular scorer from mid-field makes such a difference because it takes the pressure off the strikers.

Hopefully we managed to end our bad away form at Leyton Orient last night and we can look forward to getting a result against Carlisle on Saturday.

LEAGUE TABLES

COCA-COLA LEAGUE ONE

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Leeds United	17	13	3	1	+25	42
2 Charlton Athletic	18	10	6	2	+15	36
3 Colchester United	18	9	6	3	+15	33
4 Norwich City	18	9	5	4	+13	32
5 Huddersfield Town	18	9	3	6	+19	30
6 Milton Keynes Dons	18	9	2	7	-1	29
7 Swindon Town	17	7	7	3	+1	28
8 Bristol Rovers	18	9	1	8	-3	28
9 Walsall	18	7	6	5	+4	27
10 Millwall	18	6	8	4	+8	26
11 Southend United	18	6	5	7	0	23
12 Hartlepool United	18	6	5	7	-1	23
13 Yeovil Town	18	5	7	6	-2	22
14 Exeter City	18	5	7	6	-4	22
15 Gillingham	18	6	3	9	-3	21
16 Oldham Athletic	18	5	6	7	-6	21
17 Carlisle United	18	5	5	8	-4	20
18 Brentford	18	4	7	7	-6	19
19 Leyton Orient	18	5	4	9	-12	19
20 Brighton & Hove Albion	18	4	5	9	-13	17
21 Southampton (-10)	18	6	8	4	+7	16
22 Wycombe Wanderers	18	3	5	10	-13	14
23 Stockport County	18	3	5	10	-17	14
24 Tranmere Rovers	18	4	1	13	-22	13

RYMAN DIVISION ONE SOUTH (TOP HALF)

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Worthing	19	13	1	5	+20	40
2 Folkestone Invicta	17	12	4	1	+15	40
3 Godalming Town	16	11	2	3	+15	35
4 Walton & Hersham	17	9	4	4	+6	31
5 Croydon Athletic	15	8	5	2	+20	29
6 Fleet Town	17	9	2	6	+11	29
7 Merstham	17	8	3	6	+1	27
8 Chatham Town	19	8	3	8	-2	27
9 Ramsgate	16	7	4	5	+5	25
10 Metropolitan Police	18	5	7	6	+5	22
11 Sittingbourne	15	6	4	5	+3	22

KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION TABLE

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Faversham Town	13	10	2	1	+22	32
2 Herne Bay	12	8	1	3	+10	25
3 Erith & Belvedere	12	8	0	4	+3	24
4 Sevenoaks Town	12	6	3	3	+8	21
5 Beckenham Town	12	6	1	5	+8	19
6 Erith Town	11	5	3	3	+7	18
7 Tunbridge Wells	12	4	6	2	+6	18
8 Hythe Town	9	5	2	2	+16	17
9 Greenwich Borough	12	4	3	5	-2	15
10 Sporting Bengal United	11	4	2	5	-10	14
11 Norton Sports	11	4	1	6	-2	13
12 Deal Town	10	3	3	4	-7	12
13 Fisher	15	3	2	10	-18	11
14 Holmesdale	12	3	1	8	-8	10
15 Corinthian	9	1	3	5	-12	6
16 Lordswood	11	0	3	8	-21	3

FIXTURES (Saturday): League One: Gillingham v Carlisle United; Ryman One South: Chatham Town v Worthing; Kent League Premier Division: Herne Bay v Lordswood

Weston hopes cup win will breed confidence in league

FOOTBALL

CURTIS Weston believes Gillingham's FA Cup run will breed the confidence needed to climb the League One table during the run-up to Christmas.

The 22-year-old has scored in both rounds this season, including the only goal of the game in Saturday's second round tie against Burton Albion.

The former Millwall midfielder said January's third round tie – against either Accrington Stanley or Barnet – will give the players something to look forward to, but stressed the importance of the league games between now and then.

He said: "We're going to focus on the league; the gaffer [Mark Stimson] said straight away we've got to focus on Tuesday night [Leyton Orient] because that's the most important thing, but obviously a cup run would be good for our confidence."

"We've got a string of games now where we should be getting some points. The table's really tight at the moment, a couple of wins and you can be just outside the play-offs."

Weston is Gillingham's second highest scorer this season with seven goals, his highest tally in a single season.

The midfielder is relishing playing in a more advanced role this season and is excited by the attacking talent in the team.

He said: "Obviously the two little guys up front [Simeon Jackson and Febian Brandy] are doing well when they come up against big centre-backs because they can get round them and use their pace."



ON SONG: Midfielder Curtis Weston hit Gills only goal in their FA Cup win against Burton Albion on Saturday

"You've got to be quick to keep up with the play, but it suits me because I like to use my pace to get in behind teams."

"There's good delivery from Barchy [Andy Barcham] and Benno [Mark Bentley] as well, so it's a good front line to play with."

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Mark Stimson highlights why an extended FA Cup run is high on his list of priorities



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